



Due to structural flaws, the U.S. 60 Tennessee River bridge at Ledbetter now has a strictly-enforced three-ton weight limit. Heavy vehicles must find a detour around the bridge without exception.

USPS 138-260 • MARION KY 42064

Thursday, January 19, 2012

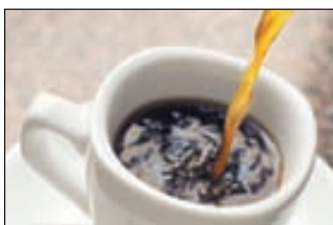
12 PAGES • VOLUME 130 • NUMBER 28

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ONE DOLLAR
94 CENTS PLUS KENTUCKY SALES TAX



YOUR HOME-OWNED NEWSPAPER SINCE 1879



VFW offers free coffee to vets

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12022 in Marion is offering free coffee for all veterans on Tuesdays from 7 to 11 a.m., at its 412 N. College St. headquarters.

Princeton man to seek House seat

A Princeton man has announced his intentions to seek the Kentucky House District 4 seat to be vacated by Rep. Mike Cherry at the end of his current term.



Giannini

Raymond Giannini, friends with his fellow Caldwell County Democrat, said he has always respected the work of politicians but never really considered a run for office until now.

"I've been giving this a lot of thought and prayer," the former director of Pennyrile District Health Department said. "The support has been great, and if not for that, I wouldn't have considered it."

Giannini, 58, is a native and longtime resident of the House district. He is married with two children in college and one a senior in high school.

Thus far, only Lynn Bechler (R-Marion) has filed for Cherry's seat. However, Giannini plans to make his run official by filing paperwork later this week. Each man would run unopposed in the May primary if no other candidates file. The filing deadline is Jan. 31.

Meetings

■ Crittenden County Extension District Board meets for its regular monthly meeting at 1 p.m., Friday at the Extension Office.

■ Crittenden-Livingston Water District meets for its regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m., Monday at the district office in Salem.

■ Crittenden Hospital Board will meet for its regular monthly meeting at 4 p.m., Tuesday at the hospital administrative annex.

■ Livingston Fiscal Court meets for its regular monthly meeting at 5 p.m., Tuesday at the judicial center

■ Crittenden County Board of Education meets for its regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m., Tuesday at Rocket Arena.

What's your opinion?

Web poll results

This week's poll at The Press Online asked readers: "How do you feel about proposed legislation (House Bill 30) to allow advertising on the sides of school buses in order to generate revenue for school systems?"

By a 2-to-1 margin, those voting did not favor placing advertising on school buses. Here is what 350 voters said:

- Great idea, 85 (24%)
- Big mistake, 183 (52%)
- Indifferent, 43 (12%)
- Need more info, 39 (1%)

A vote on the bill is expected by the House of Representatives this week. If it passes, it must then go to the Senate for approval. See story on Page 9.

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Updates 24-7 on your local and breaking news
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Crittenden Press

Local livestock market could reopen next month

STAFF REPORT

After being closed for more than a year, it looks like the livestock market on the northeast side of Marion could reopen as early as next month.

Joe Riley of Riley Livestock Company in Mayfield said it's not certain yet whether the company will be ready for a sale Feb. 8, but they're trying.

Otherwise, plans are to hold one sale a month on the second Wednesday. If



Livestock auction

Find results of Tuesday's livestock auction in Ledbetter on Page 4 this week. A report from Wednesday's sale in Hopkinsville can be found in The Early Bird each following week.

they can't get open by February, Riley says it's almost

certain there would be a sale on March 14.

"There's no official target date, but we're trying to get it ready as quick as we can," Riley said in a phone interview Monday.

Sales in Marion had traditionally been held on Mondays prior to the closing of the operation in October 2010. Sales here ceased when Eastern Livestock Company filed bankruptcy.

Riley's company bought the cattle auction facility in

August of last year. It originally had partnered with Dr. Randy Littlepage, a Madisonville cattleman. However, Riley purchased Littlepage's interest shortly after the two went in together to buy it.

Joe Riley says that if the Marion market attracts high volumes of cattle, there's a good chance it may schedule two sales a month instead of just one.

Details are still firming up and work is under way to get the Marion site ready.

Riley said it will be operated as Kentuckiana Livestock Market at Marion. Riley's company is part owner in the Kentuckiana Livestock Market in Owensboro along with partners Danny Fulkerson and Mike Baker. Riley's family business also owns the Livingston County Livestock Auction in Ledbetter.

Anyone seeking information about the Marion sales may contact Baker at (270) 970-9118.

Message in a bottle



PHOTO BY JERRITT HOVEY-BROWN

Dorothea "Dot" Hodge, the oldest daughter of Dorothea and Miles Belt, looks through the letters and momentos gathered over time that remind her of how her parents found one another in the most romantic and unlikely of ways. Above right, the message and correspondence that kicked off the love affair and eventual marriage.



600 miles downstream, Ohio woman's sealed note finds love of her life in Tolu

By JERRITT HOVEY-BROWN

PRESS REPORTER

The story of how Dot Hodge's parents met reads like a fictional novel written by Nicholas Sparks, author of "The Notebook" and "Message in a Bottle," both of which made it to the silver screen. When Hodge tells the tale, her parents' relationship seems as one written in the stars.

The relationship started, literally as a message in a bottle.

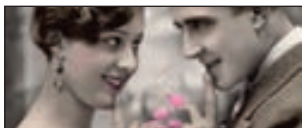
In 1936, Hodge's father, Miles Belt, was plowing in the Tolu river bottoms when off in the distance an object stuck in the earth was glistening like a beacon in the afternoon sunlight. His eyes fixed on the object as he turned the soil behind him for spring planting.

"My daddy just kept his eye on it until he was able to get closer while plowing," Hodge said. "It took him a

while, but he made sure to not let it out of his sight."

When Belt was close enough to pick it up, he discovered the glistening object was a bottle that contained a bit of paper, browned around the edges from exposure to the sun. When he opened the bottle, Belt discovered the paper bore the name and address of Dorothea Stilgenbauer from East Liverpool, Ohio.

The letter was dated July 1935, almost a year earlier. It had traveled inside the glass bottle more than 600 miles down the Ohio River before washing up on the bank in northern Crittenden County.



Share your story

Say hello to your sweetheart or share your unique story of love with others in our special Valentine edition of The Crittenden Press on Feb. 9. See ad on Page 3 for details.

my daddy; guided by a higher power."

Taking the scrap of paper from the bottle home, Belt wrote a letter to Stilgenbauer, telling her that he had found her bottle and how far it had traveled. He also described his appear-

See LOVE/page 7

The message in a bottle

Miss Dorothea Stilgenbauer
1717 Holliday St.
East Liverpool, Ohio
July 4, 1935

Belt's response to the message found in the bottle in 1936

Marion, Ky.
May 18

Miss Stilgenbauer

Dear Friend, I pick(ed) up a bottle that had your name and address in it. It was found about six miles below Dam 57 and about one mile below Cave-in-Rock, Illinois.

Well, I guess you would like to know what I look like. I am a boy about 5 ft. and 8 in. short with dark blue eyes and dark hair and weigh 160 lbs. and will be twenty-four years young the 22(nd) day of this month.

I will close. My name is Miles Lee Belt.

Marion, Ky.
Route 6

P.S. Please be shure [sic] and ans(wer).

Man accused of selling synthetic marijuana charged

STAFF REPORT

Legal troubles continue to mount for a Marion merchant accused of selling synthetic marijuana.

Roger Walker, 53, of Marion, Ill., was formally charged Friday and scheduled for arraignment Wednesday in Crittenden District Court on one count of possession of synthetic cannabinoid agonists or piperazines.

The charge stems from a raid on Walker's One Stop Smoke Shop on Sturgis Road in Marion where police seized several packages of sub-

stances believed to be synthetic marijuana.



Walker

Fifty-nine packages labeled 7H and Mr. Nice Guy were taken by law enforcement officers in September and sent to the state police criminal laboratory for analysis. One of those packages came back positive for substances outlawed last year by the Ken-

tucky General Assembly.

Police say manufacturers of these substances are finding ways to stay one step ahead of the law in most cases, by slightly modifying chemical compounds in the synthetic marijuana. This time, though, one of the substances seized at the smoke shop included a chemical signature banned by statute.

Walker faces a possible 30-day jail sentence for the misdemeanor charge.

The raid on the smoke shop was precipitated by several complaints that syn-

thetic marijuana was being sold there. An undercover policeman purchased a package of 7H right before police converged on the shop. Officers also seized dozens of pipes, rolling papers and other items that could be considered drug paraphernalia.

Walker is currently jailed in Crittenden County Detention Center following revocation a pretrial diversion for an unrelated felony conviction in Union County.

Earlier this month, Judge Rene Williams ordered Walker to serve a five-year

prison sentence on 12 felonies for theft by deception and theft by failure to make required disposition of property. That case stems from charges brought by the State of Kentucky regarding Walker's failure to pay sales and payroll taxes on a Morganfield business. As part of his pre-trial diversion, Walker was prohibited from operating a business in Kentucky. He was found in violation of that court order because he was indeed operating the smoke shop in Marion.

MLK Day provides for walk to remember

Several years ago, on my birthday, my son asked me to recount the greatest changes in my lifetime — changes that I never expected to see.

The answer was easy. The end of the Cold War and Civil Rights.

I grew up in the segregation days of the Jim Crow South. Whites and blacks were segregated, always separate — separate public restrooms and water fountains, separate seating at public events. I remember the “Whites Only” signs, separate entrances and separate seating. Mixed marriages were forbidden by law. A mixed couple was ostracized, seen together at their own physical risk. And we had separate schools.

In old Eddyville, the blacks lived in a section of town called “Freewill,” its name derived from the days of emancipation when the slaves were at liberty to live where they chose of their own “free will.” The descendants of former slaves went to their own little shabby school up at the end of the hollow. There, they matriculated through the first eight grades.

I remember seeing inside my own textbooks, issued by the county board of education,



Justice Bill Cunningham
Crittenden Press guest columnist
Benchmarks

tion, a stamp which allowed a check mark for either “white” or “colored.” When my “colored” contemporaries finished the eighth grade, they faced a hard choice. They could quit school and go to work. Or if they wished to continue with their education — and few of them did — the board of education would send them to Lincoln Ridge High School in Louisville. They would be given a bus ticket to the big city in the fall and a return ticket home for Christmas. The school board also paid for their lodging there.

It is all true. Yet today it seems unreal — like something I dreamed. To my children, it is incomprehensible.

Of course, all that changed after Martin Luther King, Jr. arrived on the scene and began his grand march for civil rights. A few years ago, as we commemorated Martin

Luther King’s birthday. I went to Paducah to walk in the MLK March sponsored by the local NAACP. It was a cold, but brilliantly sunny day. We marched from the Cherry Civic Center to the cemetery and placed a wreath on a monument. There were more than 100 people on that trek.

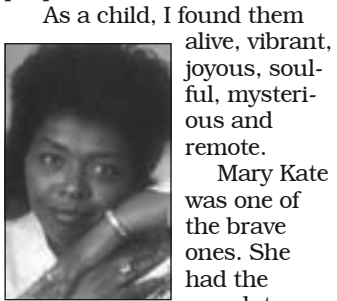
I met and marched with a person I had known all my life — from a distance.

Mary Kate McHenry and I were born six weeks apart in old Eddyville. We grew up together, only a long fly ball apart. But we were separated by the invisible wall of racial segregation and the ancient code of Jim Crow.

I remembered Mary Kate and she remembered me — from a distance. I recalled her as a pretty little black girl with pigtails and a sparkle of merriment in her eyes. I knew her brother Richard, who played with me when my parents were not watching. They lived in Freewill.

Mary Kate and her friends with ebony faces would pass our house on their way to the picture show. There, at the theater, they would buy their tickets at a separate window and climb the steps to the balcony designated for “Blacks

Only.” They seemed to always be full of life, talking and laughing. They were a happy people.



McHenry
b. Aug. 21, 1944
d. July 12, 2009

As a child, I found them alive, vibrant, joyous, soulful, mysterious and remote.

Mary Kate was one of the brave ones. She had the spunk to take the school board up on their offer. She went to Lincoln Ridge, graduated and went on to nursing school. This black girl from the rundown little settlement of Freewill in the rundown little river town of old Eddyville — against all disadvantages — beat the odds. She finished up a stellar and productive career in the healing profession. At the time of our walk together, she had just recently retired.

So there we were, walking shoulder to shoulder as old friends should, on this cold, but sunny winter day. A man and woman, almost exactly the same age, hewed from the same stone, but nurtured in

two separate worlds in a dirty old river town in a time and way of life that is hard for us even now to imagine.

We talked of people and places we shared. She remembered me as a devilish little white boy who would sometimes run my little wagon out in front of them as they walked down the sidewalk. (Here Mary Kate may have confused me with some other little pale faced hellion; I do not remember ever having a wagon.)

I confessed that we always envied her group and their balcony seats at the picture show. She gleefully reported that the thing they enjoyed most about sitting up in those lofty seats was throwing debris — popcorn, wrappers, cardboard containers, pieces of candy — down on the white kids. We both laughed with shared merriment in the knowledge that kids always find a way to adjust, to survive and to make the best of the situation.

A short time after our walk on that Martin Luther King Day, Mary Kate was diagnosed with incurable cancer. With sadness and concern, I followed her declining health through her sister Betty. In a

few months, my black friend from old Eddyville was gone.

Now the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. is honored each year. Undoubtedly, he is an American icon. But to most of us, his legacy is remote, relegated to old newspaper clippings and history books.

But Mary Kate was my friend. A real live human soul, flesh and blood. Someone that I knew who walked the walk and talked the talk. She overcame.

So now each year, as we commemorate the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., as we did on Monday, I think of Mary Kate. Two old friends who had traversed the gaping abyss of racial divide and lived to see it closed.

Together we had that one last walk to remember. Not on the cracked and ancient sidewalks of Old Eddyville, but on the clear and sunlit smoothness of another time.

(Justice Cunningham is a member of the Kentucky Supreme Court and a former judge and practicing attorney in western Kentucky. He is a resident of Lyon County and author of several books. His column appears in this newspaper periodically.)

ThePressLETTERS

Losing twin knobs in Crayne for new road an unfair trade

To the editor

I am writing this letter in response to the article that Brenda Underdown put in the paper about the Knobs at Crayne. I really enjoyed reading the article because it really hits close to home.

I grew up in Crayne and never left until I got married in 1985. My whole childhood I loved going to the knobs with the “Crayne Gang.” I always loved hearing the stories my mother told me about when she was growing up in Crayne and all the special memories of the knobs — how all of that group of kids played up there and had treasure hunts.

It saddens me so much that they have to be torn down in “the name of progress.” Every time I go to my parents’ house, which sits directly in front of the knobs, it just gives me a sick feeling in my stomach.

To even think of all the experiences that the future generations will be missing out on is disheartening also. We did get to take my son up there the other day just so he could have that memory. When he gets older, he can drive his children and grandchildren down this “spectacular highway” and tell them how he looked for arrowheads up on the knobs that used to be there when he was a boy. He can tell them how neat it was to look down upon his grandparents’ house and all of Crayne from up there and how he wished they could see it too.

Since all of this is a done deal, I guess those of us who did get all these wonderful experiences will just have to revisit those memories often to keep the knobs alive. Most people don’t appreciate those beautiful knobs unless you lived in Crayne. The

ones who decided that piece of land didn’t matter and the road needed to go right through there, definitely didn’t grow up there!

When all of the talk of the projected highway started, my mother went to the meetings. She even went to Paducah to talk to the ones in charge there. It didn’t do any good. They already had their minds made up, and it didn’t matter what concerns the residents had. I really wish there could have been another route that could have been taken.

With all of this said, I just wanted to thank Brenda for all of her hard work to try to preserve the memories and history of our community and for letting me remember those knobs just like the rest of the Crayne residents do.

Sandra Easley
Marion, Ky.

Details hurt family of man listed as brother in obituary

To the editor

I am hurt and very disappointed in the Jan. 5 obituary of Lonnie Lester Pitzer. Joey Hackney is not a biological brother to Mr. Pitzer. They were good friends, but not brothers.

This makes it look bad on Joey’s deceased father, Charles E. Hackney, and me, Joey’s mother. This has upset me greatly, and I do not appreciate how this makes our family look.

Shirley Hackney
Marion, Ky.

(Editor’s note: Obituary details are supplied to the funeral home by families of the deceased, and it is the policy of The Crittenden Press to print obituaries as sent to us by the respective funeral home in charge of arrangements. We regret any confusion or problems this recent obituary may have caused.)

America’s greatest battle is for hearts

Quoting a statement from Minister Chuck Baldwin, “There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the biggest reason America is in the mess that it’s in today is directly due to the apathy and indifference of the American pulpit.”

I am in total agreement. The main ideas in the Declaration of Independence were quotes and ideas taken directly from sermons of Pastor James Otis and John Wise. In our early years the preachers preached, and the politicians took heed. Now the politicians preach and the preachers take heed.

Now, how has this nation fallen so far so fast?

Charles G. Finney, born 1792, became a lawyer, then after reading the Bible was born again, preached holiness and won thousands to Jesus. He died at age 82 still preaching, but made the following statement, with which I concur: “If there is a decay of conscience, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the public press lacks moral discernment, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the church is degenerate and worldly, the pulpit is responsible for it. If the world loses its interest in Christianity, the pulpit is responsible for it. If Satan rules in our halls of legislation, the pulpit is responsible for it. If our politics become so corrupt that the very founda-



dations of our government are ready to fall away, the pulpit is responsible for it.”

It’s here!

When the TV evangelist’s audiences are panned, you can hardly see the end of them. Billy Graham preached and tallied up scores of so called converts. My question is, where are they when elections come? Where are they when our country is going to hell with lightning speed?

Most of them preach once you are saved you can never be lost, so people make professions and go right on doing their thing and will fight to the death the Bible message of “without holiness no man shall see the Lord.”

There are those that stand back and watch America burn, condemning any Christian that tries to obey what God told Ezekiel (chapters 3 and 33), that God’s servants are to warn the people when they see a nation’s sin bringing His judgment down upon them. In Chapter 18, they

are to warn the wicked to turn from their sins or they themselves will be destroyed.

Our second president, John Adams, put it this way: “It is the duty of the clergy to accommodate their discourses to the times, to preach against such sins as are most prevalent... Ought they not to warn their hearers against those vices?”

“If the rights and duties of Christian magistrates and subjects are disputed, should they not explain them, show their nature, ends, limitations and restrictions, how much so ever it may move the gall of Massachusetts (government)?”

Martin Luther, the great protestant reformer, was even more direct. He said, “If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at the moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved. And to be steady on all the battlefields besides is merely flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.”

Amen!

On the whole, too many churches have ignored Christ’s admonition to be the “salt and light of the earth.” It is all about how much God

loves “me,” and never about our loving God with all of thyself and our neighbor as ourselves.

Were they never called by God, have they lost the burden for souls or don’t they believe all the Bible themselves?

We do not love our listeners if we do not tell them the unvarnished Bible truths. Jesus told the rich young ruler the truth in Mark 10:17-22 because He loved him: “And Jesus looking on him loved him” even though He knew He would lose him. “The rich young ruler turned away sorrowfully.”

When Hitler came to power, the German churches were about as stagnant as American churches are today when it comes to holy preaching and holy living. Many of them even said, “Jesus has come to us through Hitler.”

Are we looking for a savior in a president of any party, or are we looking to Jesus Christ and His cross — obeying and loving Him and crying out to Him for America’s deliverance from the decadent ever spiraling-descent into the hungry yawning abyss?

(Rev. Tedrick is a Marion minister. She shares her views regularly in this newspaper. Her opinions are her own, and are not necessarily those of the newspaper.)

Bridge limit brings infrastructure woes to fore

Infrastructure. It’s a lot like a mouthful of teeth — something we need, but over time take for granted because they’ve always been there. As years of neglect pass, they begin to pit, chip, break and wreak all sorts of havoc for the entire body.

Consider our roads, bridges and utilities the teeth this nation has neglected for decades. Why, just this month the dentist, err, transportation cabinet deemed the U.S. 60 Tennessee River bridge at Ledbetter so unfit that it’s been restricted to a liquid diet. The three-ton weight limit on the crumbling, rusting hulk under 81 years of strain and weather has reduced traffic to essentially passenger vehicles.

Its replacement just upstream won’t be ready for another two years, so we can’t just pull the tooth, we have to pamper it a while longer.

Meantime, up the way about a half-hour from the Tennessee River bridge is its sister span over the Cumberland River at Smithland. Open to traffic in 1931 just the same as the Ledbetter bridge, it fares little better. The state’s new, proposed road plan does call for \$2 million in 2013 to begin design work on replacing the bridge, but if it were to succumb to time before replacement, Livingston County would literally be split in two.

Of course, the sister bridges and other infrastructure shortcoming in western



Daryl K. Tabor
Crittenden Press managing editor
My 2¢ Worth

Kentucky are far from the worst in the nation. It was just more than four years ago the Interstate 35 West Bridge over the Mississippi River in Minneapolis collapsed, killing 13 and injuring 145.

Thank goodness, we’ve not had to endure such here, but the hardships are starting to mount in Kentucky. Besides the Tennessee River span, the Sherman Minton Bridge in Louisville has closed indefinitely due to cracks in the load-carrying portion of the roadway over the Ohio River. This has forced 80,000 commuters to find an alternate way to traverse between the Hoosier and Bluegrass states.

It’s truly an epidemic from sea to shining sea, but do you hear any political platforms discussing revitalizing our infrastructure as a top priority in their campaign?

Instead, they’d rather talk about Super PACS attacking one another, abortion, personal indiscretions, welfare, voting records and whose most electable because of his nice hair or smooth talking. Why? Because that’s what we demand — shallow, in-

significant points of contention.

Pish posh, I say. Repair my roads, bridges and utilities to last another hundred years. Keep your social issues, quit trying to dictate every minute of every day for everyone and shut up long enough to listen to the needs of the same — basically those who have given up on voting because of all the back-biting and bickering over nonsense.

In Marion and across the county, officials are on the job, dealing as best they can with what little resources they have. In town, we’re getting a new fire station, water main and eventually a smooth Main Street. In the county, more than 300 miles of roads are maintained with far fewer resources available to a degree better than some interstates in the area.

But state and federal legislators can come together to produce jewels of infrastructure. A prime example is the current construction of a new U.S. 641 from Marion to Fredonia, and hopefully, to the Interstate 69 corridor along Interstate 24 or the Western Kentucky Parkway. As you read this, blasting, dozing and trackhoes are clearing the path for a stretch of road from Marion through Crayne and on to Fredonia. The second phase of the new U.S. 641 — Fredonia to I-69 — remains in limbo, with no route nor funding secured.

In fact, the second half of

construction on this initial phase currently under way awaits funding for pavement and finishing touches. The \$18.6 million contract now carried out is just for cutting a path that slices through land east of the current U.S. 641, connecting to no existing road when finished. That’s why it is key in Rep. Mike Cherry’s final legislative session and possibly Sen. Dorsey Ridley’s final shot at representing Crittenden County — due to redistricting — to secure funding to finish the initial, 5.2 mile project.

A finished four-lane U.S. 641 would be a fresh gold tooth in the mouth of local infrastructure and is truly a remarkable feat of cooperation and determination by both local and state officials.

Some see it as a road to nowhere. Many see it as an economic tool to bring in jobs and industry. It simply depends on which side of the guardrail you stand. But only time will provide that answer.

The simple fact is, new roads are sexy, win political favors and earn votes. That is not to suggest that the efforts to land the U.S. 641 project were anything but genuine, but while new pavement is laid, old pavement is crumbling like a rotten tooth.

And that should give us all something to chew on.

(Tabor is managing editor of The Press. His column appears regularly. He can be reached at 965-3191 or e-mail thecrittendenpress@att.net.)

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Redistricting could shift House district south

As most know by now, we House members kept our New Year's resolution to get congressional and state legislative redistricting plans to the Senate early in the session. These plans would change the geographic boundaries of all six Kentucky congressional districts, many of the state's 100 House districts, and Kentucky's seven Supreme Court districts. By approving them this early, we made it possible for the General Assembly to meet the goal of moving them through the legislative process prior to the Jan. 31 filing deadline for the 2012 primary election.

The next step toward meeting that deadline will be taken by the Senate, which has both the congressional redistricting plan (House Bill (HB) 2, which passed the



House 54-42 on Jan. 10) and the legislative and judicial redistricting plan (HB1 1, which passed the House 63-34 last Thursday) in its possession. The Senate has indicated they, too, will move quickly, and I expect the bills to be returned to the House for final passage by the end of this week.

My House District 4 has a significant, though relatively non-controversial population shift. The district no longer includes some 8,500 Mc-

Cracken County citizens. In their place are approximately 10,000 folks in Trigg County. All of Caldwell, Crittenden, and Livingston counties will, as is now the case, remain in the district.

The new Trigg County voters will include residents of Cadiz among other communities. The remainder of Trigg County stays with Calloway County to form House District 6.

I, for one, welcome this change, which reunites Caldwell and Trigg counties in the legislature, as was the case for most of the past century. While I was growing up, and until the early 1960s, Caldwell and Trigg together had sufficient population to be a single district.

In our immediate geographic area, Rep. John Tilley will move out of Trigg County

and have all of his District 8 in Christian County; Marshall and Lyon County remained combined to form Rep. Will Coursey's District 6; and Rep. Jim Gooch, Jr., from Webster County will see his District 12 expand into more of Hopkins County, including Dawson Springs.

While redistricting is near the top of the General Assembly's agenda early this session, it is not the only issue we find before us. Budget discussions will soon heat up in the House, as will the debate on bills that propose everything from limiting access to over-the-counter drugs used to make the street drug methamphetamine to improving our public schools.

Discussion about limiting purchases of pseudoephedrine — a drug commonly found in cold and

allergy medications like Sudafed — and related drugs used to make illegal meth dominated the agenda of House Judiciary Committee hearings early in the session.

That committee is currently debating two measures that would limit access to the so-called "meth precursors." HB 79 would make the non-liquid form of pseudoephedrine and related drugs available by prescription only; and HB 80 would both limit convicted meth offenders' access to pseudoephedrine and related drugs and put stricter limits on how much of the drugs could be bought per month or year. More discussion is expected before any vote is taken on the issue this session. I'm getting some constituent response on this issue, all of which, thus far,

oppose the more restrictive HB 79.

We reconvened on Tuesday for the session's third full week, and the start of an increasingly busy schedule, after having recessed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday and bad weather last Friday. Capitol watchers can expect the legislative pace to become more and more frenetic between now and mid-April when we lawmakers reach the last of the session's 60 legislative days.

As always, I welcome your comments and advice on all issues.

(Rep. Cherry is a Princeton Democrat serving House District 4. He has represented Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and a portion of McCracken County in Frankfort since 1999.)

Drug abuse on Senate's legislative plate

The second week of the 2012 regular session of the Kentucky General Assembly saw proposed legislation taken up in committee meetings, a vetting process meant to identify and strengthen the most needed and effective bills.

Committee approval is the first step in a long legislative process that, for successful bills, means passage by both the House and Senate, reconciliation of differences between the two chambers and signing by the governor. It is a long journey.

Our opening slate of topics this year includes some of the most important issues facing the commonwealth. We have seen the media reports and heard from our constituents about how substance abuse — especially methamphetamine abuse — is plaguing Kentucky. This is not the first time we have discussed drug problems in the legislature, and unfortunately, it will not be the last. As illicit drug production and distribution schemes evolve,



so must our tactics against them.

We began tackling the most urgent current drug-related issues of pill mills and meth labs with pre-filed bills even before the session began. Last week that work intensified.

In a joint meeting of the Senate and House Judiciary Committee, we heard from several experts on the commonwealth's meth epidemic. University of Kentucky researchers and seasoned drug enforcement professionals testified on the scope of meth-lab incidents, as well as the effectiveness of previous and current anti-meth legislation in Kentucky and across the nation.

This is a complex problem that will require thoughtful legislation. We want to curb drug abuse — the scourge of meth especially — while being mindful of the rights of law-abiding citizens. Our hope is that by April — or before — we will have written and passed such a bill.

Talks began last week about other important topics, as well. Some of the most vulnerable citizens in our commonwealth took center stage as legislators discussed schools, long-term care facilities, veterans, open records in child-abuse fatalities and the Impact Plus behavioral health program. Committee hearings do not always get a lot of attention, but they are key first steps in the process of a bill becoming a law, and citizens are always welcome.

It is still very early in the legislative session. The pace will continue to increase in the coming weeks and months. I will keep you posted, and ask for your feedback as well. To do my job well, I need to hear from

Staying in touch

Say informed of legislative action on bills of interest this session by logging onto the Legislative Research Commission website at www.lrc.ky.gov or by calling the LRC toll-free Bill Status Line at 1-866-840-2835. To find out when a committee meeting is scheduled, call the LRC toll-free Meeting Information Line at 1-800-633-9650.

To share comments or concerns with any legislator about a particular bill under consideration, call the toll-free Legislative Message Line at 1-800-372-7181 or write any legislator by sending a letter with their name to: Capitol Annex, 702 Capitol Ave., Frankfort, KY 40601.

Rep. Mike Cherry (D-Princeton) can be reached by e-mail at mike.cherry@lrc.ky.gov and Sen. Dorsey Ridley (D-Henderson) at dorsey.ridley@lrc.ky.gov.

Possible scam uses clerk's phone number

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden Circuit Clerk Madeline Henderson says someone pirated the office phone number and has called at least one local resident as part of what could be a scam.

Henderson has investigated the claim and found that it is feasible for someone to use a caller identification signature that gives credibility to the scam.

"It appeared as coming from 1-1-965-4200," Henderson said.

The caller told a local woman he was from the clerk's office and that she owed for a long overdue parking ticket. The woman didn't fall for the scam and the caller became offensive.

Henderson said anyone who receives a suspicious phone call allegedly from her office should call police.

Budget, senate redistricting present challenges

FROM STAFF AND AP REPORTS

Declaring ""the day of reckoning has come," Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear called Tuesday for 8.4 percent cuts to most government agencies.

Only education, public safety and a handful of other programs would be spared to make up a \$742 million deficit. He presented his proposal to a joint session of the House and Senate.

"To protect our people, we have used every trick in our bag, patched holes with every bandage we could find and reached for every helping hand extended in our direction," he told lawmakers. "But my friends, the major efficiencies have been found, and the tricks and Band-Aids are about used up."

The next round of cuts would come in the first year of his two-year, \$19.5 billion budget proposal. Funding would be unchanged in the second year.

Cuts totaling \$286 million would be especially difficult for agencies already having slashed budgets more than 30 percent in the past four years.

The governor also used his biennial budget address to promote casino-style gambling in a state that allows residents to try their luck only on horse races, lotteries and charitable bingo. He called for a constitutional amendment that, if approved by lawmakers, would be placed on the ballot for voters to ratify or reject.

Beshear said he doesn't plan to impose mandatory un-

Redistricting plans

The House of Representatives' plan for redistricting shifts some District 4 precincts from eastern McCracken County to Trigg County. Four county seats, including Cadiz, will now be represented in the district if the plan is approved by the Senate, probably this week.

The Senate is also expected to present its plan this week.

paid furloughs on state employees but that he couldn't rule out layoffs as a means for some agencies to trim their budgets.

Road plan

Kentucky's proposed six-year road plan unveiled Tuesday bodes well for the area, at least in its present form.

In Crittenden County, Kentucky's half of funding for the Ohio River Ferry shows \$402,000 each year through 2018. Once approved, however, road plans assure funding for only the first two years of the transportation schedule.

Additionally, the plan reflects \$3.12 million in 2013 for design of the second phase — Fredonia-to-Interstate 24 — of a new U.S. 641 and another \$9.68 million for acquisition of right-of-way and utilities relocation in the out-years, or last four years of the plan not guaranteed of funding.

In Livingston County, \$2 million shows for 2013 design work on replacing the U.S. 60 Cumberland River bridge in Smithland. Another \$31.65 million in the out years through 2018 would allow for all phases of the project into construction.

Redistricting

While realignment of the state's House districts has

been approved in that chamber (see map at left) and is likely to be approved in the Senate this week without change, Senate redistricting may not shape up so well for Crittenden County when it is taken up this week.

Though Sen. Dorsey Ridley (D-Henderson), who represents the county in Senate District 4, had not been privy to proposed Senate redistricting maps at press time, talk around the chamber would see him lose Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and Union counties while picking up Hopkins County. Crittenden and Livingston counties would likely fall under Sen. Bob Leeper's (I-Paducah) reshaped District 2.

With Rep. Mike Cherry retiring at the end of this term and the possibility of being moved from Sen. Ridley's district, Crittenden and Livingston counties stand to have completely new representation in Frankfort if the GOP-crafted Senate map is okayed.

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CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 250 ACRES - Price Reduced. \$1,750/ACRE - 31 acres of timber, overgrown fields and pasture.

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 370 ACRES - Price Reduced \$1,500/ACRE - Nearly all timber, food plots, interior roads, and creek.

LIVINGSTON CO, KY - 65 ACRES - \$229,000 - This 65 acre gem has open fields that could be food plotted, thick cover, water, and mature timber completes the ingredients that you need in every great hunting property.

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 264 ACRES - Price Reduced \$1,645/ACRE - 100 acres CRP / SAFE Program, established food plots, pond, balance in timber & brush.

CRITTENDEN CO, KY - 19.91 ACRES and CABIN - \$95,900 - This is one terrific small tract with a great small hunting tract or family get-a-way.

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Jurors re-indict man accused of impregnating girl, 12

STAFF REPORT

In a rare sequence of events, a special-called Crittenden County Grand Jury on Tuesday re-indicted a Central City man who allegedly impregnated a then-12-year-old Marion girl in 2008.

Ethan Thomas Hughes, 22, of Central City is accused of the crime. He was originally indicted in August 2010, and in August of 2011 was court-ordered to provide a DNA sample for testing.

Last week, Hughes' attorney, public defender Paul Sysol, asked Circuit Judge Rene Williams to dismiss the

cases because Sysol said evidence was not properly presented to a grand jury in 2010. Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell argued that the defense's claim was no grounds for dismissing the case, but agreed to recall a grand jury and present evidence again if it would placate the defendant.

Sysol agreed and on Tuesday of this week a different grand jury was called to the courthouse for the sole reason of hearing evidence in the Hughes case. Grand juries normally meet once every other month. The next scheduled meeting isn't until

Feb. 6.

Grand juries do not determine innocence or guilt, they simply determine whether enough evidence exists to continue prosecution of a felony case in Crittenden Circuit Court. If so, the grand jury issues an indictment or a true bill. If not, the case is either dismissed or remanded to Crittenden District Court where the accused could face a lesser charge.

Hughes is incarcerated in the Christian County Jail on an unrelated conviction of assault and fleeing or evading police in another

county. He is scheduled to stand trial Jan. 27 on the rape charge in Crittenden County.

However, Greenwell told Judge Williams last week that testing of DNA evidence has not been completed at an out-of-state laboratory. He hopes it will be back by the trial date. But if not, Greenwell said a Family Court finding that Hughes was indeed the father of the child would stand as paternal evidence in circuit court.

The public defender also asked Judge Williams to throw out an audio-taped interview of the suspect

by Marion Police Officer Jerry Parker. The interview was conducted last year at the sheriff's department when the suspect was brought to Marion for a paternity test. Parker said his department was notified about the situation by the child services agency that had ordered the test for family court. Statements made by Hughes on the recording helped build a case against him.

Judge Williams overruled the defense motion to suppress the evidence largely because police had followed proper legal procedures in acquiring the recording.

LIVESTOCK REPORT					
LEDBETTER AUCTION RESULTS FROM USDA MARKET NEWS					
Tuesday, Jan 17, 2012 • KDOA-USDA Market News					
Livingston County Livestock					
Ledbetter Auction (cattle weighed at time of sale)					
Receipts: 772 Head					
Compared to last week: Slaughter cows and bulls steady. Feeder steers and heifers steady to 4.00 higher.					
Slaughter Cows Breaker 75-80%					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
6	800-1200	1061	64.00-71.00	66.58	
1	800-1200	1175	75.00	75.00	HD
12	1200-1600	1325	62.00-70.00	65.26	
4	1200-1600	1392	72.00-75.00	73.75	HD
1	1200-1600	1365	57.00	57.00	LD
1	1600-2000	1605	72.00	72.00	HD
Slaughter Cows Boner 80-85%					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
19	800-1200	1017	56.00-63.00	59.54	
2	800-1200	1108	52.00-54.00	52.99	LD
4	1200-1600	1270	56.00-61.00	58.76	
1	1200-1600	1200	70.00	70.00	HD
1	1200-1600	1405	53.00	53.00	LD
Slaughter Cows Lean 85-90%					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
9	800-1200	1027	50.00-55.00	53.42	
1	1200-1600	1335	53.00	53.00	
Slaughter Bulls Y.G. 1					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	1500-3000	1908	80.00-82.00	80.95	
Slaughter Bulls Y.G. 2					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
3	1500-3000	1672	72.00-78.00	73.88	
1	1500-3000	2135	71.00	71.00	LD
Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1-2					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
6	200-300	217	190.00-212.50	203.77	
12	300-400	320	188.00-200.00	193.23	
20	400-500	445	165.00-182.00	172.16	
23	500-600	536	150.00-163.00	158.33	
14	600-700	674	138.00-147.00	141.85	
6	700-800	748	135.00-140.00	136.48	
1	800-900	850	125.00	125.00	
1	1000-1100	1020	101.00	101.00	
Feeder Steers Medium and Large 2					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	200-300	260	140.00-150.00	144.81	
8	300-400	374	151.00-183.00	176.20	
4	400-500	425	147.00-150.00	147.71	
14	500-600	551	143.00-149.00	146.57	
Feeder Holstein Steers Large 3					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
2	300-400	345	87.00	87.00	
3	400-500	453	76.00-80.00	77.43	
1	500-600	500	73.00	73.00	
1	800-900	810	81.00	81.00	
Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1-2					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	100-200	185	175.00	175.00	
2	200-300	278	170.00-176.00	172.81	
47	300-400	360	160.00-177.00	165.16	
72	400-500	430	155.00-167.00	160.94	
25	500-600	520	140.00-154.00	144.68	
41	600-700	634	124.00-138.00	132.14	
7	700-800	717	122.00-129.00	125.39	
5	800-900	832	110.00-118.00	114.78	
Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 2					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	200-300	295	151.00	151.00	
22	300-400	371	130.00-159.00	149.07	
42	400-500	462	130.00-154.00	147.13	
25	500-600	560	124.00-139.00	135.35	
8	600-700	692	119.00	119.00	
4	800-900	876	96.00-107.00	101.46	
Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
27	300-400	361	170.00-188.00	178.58	
53	400-500	445	150.00-167.00	159.64	
53	500-600	542	141.00-156.00	148.98	
8	600-700	661	126.00-140.00	128.85	
7	700-800	734	111.00-124.00	115.45	
Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 2					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
6	300-400	382	150.00-168.00	163.50	
4	400-500	438	139.00-150.00	142.59	
11	500-600	544	130.00-139.00	135.89	
3	600-700	685	116.00-117.00	116.66	
4	700-800	747	100.00-110.00	106.42	
Stock Cows: Medium and Large 1-2: Cow 3 to 9 years old and 5 to 7 months bred 775.00-1025.00 per head.					
Stock Cows and Calves: Cows 7 to 8 years old with calves at side 1125.00-1360.00 per pair.					
Baby calves: Beef Breeds: No test.					
*LD - Low dressing; HD - High dressing					
Market Specialist: Chip Stewart					
Source: Kentucky Department of Agriculture-USDA					
Market News, Louisville, Ky.					
Phone: (502) 582-5287					
Web: www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/sv_ls150.txt					

Article leads to arrest, return of stolen items

STAFF REPORT

An article in last week's newspaper helped return stolen items to an alleged burglary victim.

On Jan. 2, Wild Wing Lodge in rural Crittenden County was burglarized. Taken were items valued at more than \$10,000, including ammunition and a generator.

Since then, Kentucky State Police, working in conjunction with local authorities, have arrested two men believed responsible for the break-in. Charged are Allen Curtis Hoover, 31, and James Edward Millikan, 35.

Hoover was arraigned last week in Crittenden District Court on a charge of third-degree burglary. He is also charged in other burglary cases in Crittenden and Caldwell counties.

Millikan was picked up in Henderson last Wednesday on a warrant charging him with being part of the Wild Wing Lodge burglary. A tip led police to a doctor's office in Hen-

derson where Millikan showed up for an appointment.

On Friday, State Trooper First Class Chris King received a call from the Lyon County Sheriff's Department regarding items allegedly stolen from the hunting lodge. King said when he arrived at the residence Sunday in Lyon County, a man showed him a copy of the Jan. 12 issue of The Crittenden Press, which included an article about the burglary.

"He said, 'I think I have the items you're looking for,'" King said.

"Thanks to the newspaper article, we got all of the stolen property back," King said.

The Lyon County man said he purchased the ammo and generator from one of the suspects for \$2,000.

Millikan was scheduled to be arraigned in Crittenden District Court Wednesday on a charge of third-degree burglary. Both suspects are being held at the Crittenden County Detention Center.

Farm, commercial taxpayers should heed filing changes

STAFF REPORT

Farm and commercial taxpayers should take notice of a new requirement on 2011 tax returns.

For the first time, Schedule F and Schedule C tax forms require farm and commercial businesses to note whether they made payments during the tax filing year that would require a Form 1099. Both forms also ask whether those forms have or will be filed.

Larry Orr, a certified public accountant in Marion, says those lines are especially important to filers. Failure to properly answer those questions could lead to tax fraud.

Orr says any entity, whether farm or business, that paid \$600 or more for

labor and materials, services rendered or interest of \$10 or more to anyone that is not a corporation must issue a 1099 by Jan. 31.

The issue of 1099 filing has been complicated because congress repealed a law in 2011 requiring companies to file 1099 forms for all vendors. The repeal of that law does not affect the 1099 requirements that have traditionally been in effect, Orr said.

The account recommends that taxpayers pay particular attention to lines F and G on Schedule F for farm operations and lines I and J on Schedule C for businesses. If you do not understand how this can affect your operation, consult your accountant.

Senior center director appointed

STAFF REPORT

Pennyrile Allied Community Services has named a new director for the Senior Citizens Center in Marion. Alicia McDowell will take over the position later this month.

The appointment comes

after a two-month vacancy left when 15-year director Mona Manley resigned her post.

McDowell is a resident of Crittenden County. She will direct the day-to-day activities and management of the North Walker Street facility.

Five sentenced to prison in circuit court

STAFF REPORT

Circuit Judge Rene Williams last Thursday sentenced five individuals to prison and accepted a guilty plea from another person who will be formally sentenced next month.

■ A state inmate at the Crittenden County Detention Center, Calvin E. Mitchell, 32, of Louisville, will be formally sentenced on Feb. 9. He pleaded guilty last week to a charge of second-degree escape. According to court records, Mitchell was out of jail on work detail Nov. 12 when he escaped. He was later found on U.S. 60 near the Union County line by Kentucky State Police.

Commonwealth Attorney Zac Greenwell has recommended a one-year sentence to run consecutively with the prison time Mitchell was already serving. The state is opposing probation on the escape charge.

■ Toni Dawn Tramel, 32, of Owensboro waived formal sentencing after pleading guilty to stealing two vehicles

in Marion on Oct. 24. She was remanded into the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Court records indicate that Tramel took a 1997 Ford Mustang and a 1998 Ford LTD from two different homes in Marion on Oct. 24. Both were later recovered by city police officers.

Tramel was sentenced for five years on each count, with the terms to run concurrently. The commonwealth did not oppose probation, but Tramel will have to serve at least 30 days before qualifying to get out of jail. She will also be required to pay restitution when she gets out.

■ Zachary A. Owen, 22, of Marion pleaded guilty to three theft charges. He stole a truck near Frances on July 29 and sold it for scrap. From the truck, he took tools belonging to its owner and sold them to a local pawn broker.

In September, Owen stole an ATV from a home on Bridwell Loop.

Owen was sentenced to

one year on the tool theft and five years on each of the other two thefts. The terms are to run concurrently for a total of five years in prison.

Last week's sentence, however, is to run consecutive to a nine-year sentence Owen is now serving from a previous felony conviction. He had been out on probation when the latest thefts took place. His probation was revoked from the previous felony charge, leaving Owen to face a total of 14 years in prison.

When he gets out of prison, Owen will have nearly \$2,000 in restitution to pay.

■ Ronnie Phillips, 44, of Marion pleaded guilty to a charge of receiving stolen property.

Phillips took several items from the home of a neighbor on Ky. 365 and pawned some of it in Henderson. The theft occurred on or around May 28.

Phillips was sentenced to three years in prison. When he gets out, the defendant will have to pay \$3,128 in restitution to the victim.

■ Gary D. Moore, 41, of Marion pleaded guilty to possession of an open alcoholic beverage container in a motor vehicle; second-offense DUI; and driving on a DUI-suspended license, third offense, a felony. He was sentenced to five years, all of it probated, on the felony charge, and 14 days for the DUI. The DUI sentence was doubled to 28 days because he requested and was granted work release. His driver's license will be revoked for five years.

■ April Bivins, 33, of Marion pleaded guilty to being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. The charge stemmed from a visit to her home by a probation officer in November.

Bivins' probation on a previous felony conviction had already been revoked for failing to complete terms of her early release. She was sentenced to five years on the firearm charge, but that will be probated if she successfully completes the Drug Court Program.

Jail loses 14 state inmates to early-release initiative

STAFF REPORT

Kentucky's early-release of state prisoners is beginning to make life harder for Crittenden County Jailer Rick Riley.

On Tuesday morning, Riley reported to Crittenden Fiscal Court that the local detention center has lost 14 inmates to the commonwealth's effort to relieve the financial burden of a burgeoning state inmate population. Last week, the jail had reported a loss of only five prisoners to early-release, which started letting out almost 1,000 prisoners on Jan. 3 under parole supervision.

As many as 4,000 Kentucky inmates will be let go this year before their sentence is up, Riley added. Each state inmate housed in the jail is worth \$31.34 a day, which helps finance the \$575,000 annual debt on the local jail.

Despite the recent losses, the jailer said he is holding

Marion Police December activity		
Following is a monthly activity report for the Marion Police Department reflecting information from December 2011 as compared to the month before. The information is provided by Police Chief Ray O'Neal.		
CATEGORY	NOVEMBER '11	DECEMBER '11
Miles Patrolled/ Driven	2,421	2,253
Criminal Investigations.....	4.....	17
Domestics	5.....	7
Felony Arrests	1.....	1
Misdemeanor Arrests.....	0.....	5
Non-Criminal Arrests.....	4.....	2
DUI Arrests	0.....	1
Criminal Summons	3.....	0
Citations.....	19.....	35
Traffic Warnings	10.....	22
Parking Tickets.....	0.....	0
Traffic Accidents.....	10.....	7
Safety Checks/Alarms	52.....	56
Calls for Service/Complaints	269	258

Advertisement for Crittenden County Schools
Local Planning Committee Meeting

The Crittenden County Schools' Local Planning Committee (LPC) will conduct a PUBLIC MEETING on January 26 at 6:00 PM CST in the conference room at Rocket Arena, 601 West Elm Street, Marion, KY 42064. This is the first of a series of meetings to develop a District Facilities Plan for Crittenden County Schools. The Kentucky Department of Education will be conducting a training session for LPC members at this first meeting. This meeting and future meetings will be informal gatherings to encourage local participation through community suggestions relative to future utilization of existing school facilities and construction of new school facilities. These community suggestions or recommendations will be closely monitored by the Local Planning Committee in the development of a proposed District Facility Plan for the Crittenden County School District.

The public is welcome and invited to this series of meetings.

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Pursuant to Section 324, Title III of the Federal Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986 (PL 99-499), the following information is provided in compliance with the Community Right to Know requirements of the SARA Law, and the open meetings and open records provisions of Kentucky Revised Statutes. Members of the public may contact the Crittenden County Emergency Planning Committee, 351 Briarwood Dr., Marion, Kentucky 42064, or by calling (270) 965-2141. The Crittenden County Emergency Planning Committee conducts meetings at Crittenden County Courthouse, 107 S. Main St., Marion, Kentucky, or at other locations, in accordance with the Kentucky Open Meetings Law. Members of the Public may request to be notified of regular or special meetings as provided in KRS 61.820 and KRS 61.825. Records of the Planning Committee, including the county emergency response plan, material safety data sheets, and inventory forms, or any follow-up emergency notices as may subsequently be issued, are open for inspection, and members of the public who wish to review these records may do so by calling the Deputy Director at (270) 965-2141, as required by the Kentucky Open Records Law. The local 24-hour telephone number for purposes of emergency notification, as required by SARA, is (270) 965-3500.

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Notable figures, mining shaped Marion’s history

Let's go back in time with help from the archives of The Crittenden Press and see what was happening in our fair city and county 100 years ago.

**January 1912
Marion in Winter's Icy Grip**

Not for many years has such frigid weather been felt in this vicinity which swooped down on us last Saturday and continued on until now. The snow flew furious all day Saturday and attained a depth of eight inches on the level and with the thermometer down to 18 below there was great suffering. Some of the churches had no Sunday school or church services as the building could not be heated comfortably. On Monday, school was dismissed as the buildings were not heated sufficiently to prevent sickness.

On county court day Monday 8, the smallest crowd was seen here on a similar occasion for many years.

**January 11, 1912
Ollie James is elected Senator**

At noon today, both houses of the General Assembly voting separately, most in their separate chamber, elected Congressman Ollie M. James of the First District, as a member of the United Senate to replace Thomas H. Paynter.

James, of Kentucky, is one man whose future appears gilded with most splendid possibilities. In appearance he is most fortunate. Some six feet, six or seven inches in height, he is erect, well proportioned and commanding. His voice is that of an orator. He is only 40 years of age. In habits he is studious and persistent.

Several terms in congress have shown him gifted with admirable qualities of leadership. Never dictatorial, never harsh, he has a host of devoted friends who love him for his heart qualities as they respect him for his head qualities.

James is the incarnation of that great development of the present day progressivism. It is his relation to this movement which gave significance to this election. It is what he has done, what he stands for and what he is going to do that makes his election a triumph of Democracy. In the past campaign his compelling eloquence raised a storm of enthusiasm throughout the state which swept our ticket into office, created our majority in this assembly and left him the sole contender for the Senatorship. In the election the people looked beyond the ballots and saw James as a candidate for the office which they believed that he, of all men of Kentucky was best qualified to fill. He is a progressive and there is no taint of guile upon him.

**January 11, 1912
Popular official**

George M. Crider, who for 11 years has dispensed the mail at Marion Post Office surrendered same to his successor last week. Crider had been considered almost a stability as his first appointment dates back to the days of the lamented McKinley. When Crider was first given this office in 1897, it



PHOTO PROVIDED
Marion's most popular postmaster, George Crider, retires after 11 years of service.

was not a Presidential one, but the year following in 1898, it became one, and he was at once re-appointed by President McKinley.

President Roosevelt reappointed him in 1902 and again in 1906, the term of which latter appointment expired last fall, since which time various rumors have been afloat as to who would be his successor, and the one most generally believed was that eventually he would be reappointed, as he was recognized as not only capable, honest and high-toned but with all, experienced and popular, and many were the loyal friends, who devoutly hoped for that to happen. Marion has had many postmasters but none who has ever served so long. Back in the 70s W. Wagar, later D. Stinson, R. Coffield, Bob Walker, A.M. Hearin, and then G.M. Crider, but none more popular or beloved than the last named. Crider will now devote his time to the insurance business of Wood and Crider, of which he is one-half owner and which by the way is one of the best agencies in Kentucky. Carl Henderson will be the new Marion postmaster beginning this month.

Wilson's Garage and Wholesale Automobile Depot opened

Monday, J.W. Wilson, the local Ford automobile agent, received his first 1912 consignment consisting of a car load of Ford machines of various types, one a four-door passenger of the latest 1912



PHOTO PROVIDED
John W. Wilson was the first Ford automobile dealer in Marion. He displayed new cars that just arrived at the depot. Wilson sits behind the wheel of the touring car on the left.

model, one a run about and one for delivery purposes and general utility use, such as express, ice, laundry grocers, milk of any other public utilities. The cars made quite a pretty sight as they moved up Depot Street after being unloaded and displayed on Main Street and afterward put in Tucker's furniture store a part of which Wilson has rented for the coming season.

Silver discovered near Mexico

The Pigmy Mining Co., of Louisville has struck silver on their property near Mexico in the southern part of this county. This company bought the W.B. Myers property and has been operating it since early in the spring, and has been getting a fine quality of spar rich in lead and containing silver ore.

The company works a large crew of hands and has every facility for mining on a large scale. Its mine is located on the I.C. Railroad and it is putting in a branch and will load ore on the cars direct from the mine. It has built a large washer to wash their gravel spar and will soon begin the erection of a crusher to separate the different minerals.

This is supposed to be the same vein of silver that was worked before the Civil War, when a lot of it was made into money.

Great activity in all mining enterprises in this field

The fluorspar, lead and zinc mining interests in and around Marion are in a stronger position today than ever before. In other words, the effervescing frothy period has been passed. Legitimate business methods combined

with intelligence in mining have taken the place of the earlier days with all of their absurdities of statements regarding this section of the state and its mineral resources.

Fluorspar, zinc and lead mining in western Kentucky is not a poor man's game, the mining of ores and mineral here not only requires patience and pluck but a good strong bank account. Given these requisites, the returns are as sure as in any industrial enterprise known in this country.

The past few years have proven that in the counties of Crittenden and Livingston great veins of these ores and mineral exist. It has also been proven that with proper facilities as regards mining and preparing the ore for market the demand is constant and the money returns are large enough to declare superb dividends.

The demand for fluorspar is a constantly growing one, many new uses are being found for this wonderful mineral and from a few hundred tons per annum 30



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PHOTO
Ollie Murray James, a congressman and senator from Kentucky, was born in Crittenden County on July 27, 1871. According to his congressional biography, he served as a page in the Kentucky legislature in 1887, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1891. He was elected as a Democrat to the 58th and to the four succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1903 to March 3, 1913). He did not seek renomination in 1912, having become a candidate for senator. He was one of the last U.S. Senators elected by a state legislature before the 17th Amendment allowed for the direct election of Senators beginning in 1914. James served as a senator from March 4, 1913, until his death in a Baltimore hospital on Aug. 28, 1918. He is buried in Maplevue Cemetery in Marion. Ironically, Kentucky is one of 10 states to have never ratified the amendment that allowed for the election of senators by the people. The picture above was taken in 1912 with the Capitol in the background.

years ago the consumption in 1912 will be in excess of 125,000 tons.

Mexico, Ky., eight miles south of Marion on the Illinois Central Railroad shipped in 1911, according to the railroad agents statement, 252 car loads of fluorspar, aggregating some 10,000 tons while from Marion an equal tonnage was probably made but largely of the ground product which brings the highest price on account of its purity.

Big tobacco meeting here
Henderson speakers deliver addresses to Crittenden Growers. One of the biggest

and most enthusiastic meetings of tobacco growers ever held in the county was held Saturday afternoon. The speakers told the growers that unless the tobacco pool holds this year, tobacco buyers will lower the price of the weed. The meeting was largely attended and was presided over by Judge John W. Blue, Jr.

I would like to personally thank everyone for their support of my article written about the Crayne Knobs. It meant a lot to me. Thank you.

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Human egos can be strong-willed

The auto safety experts insist it is safer for auto operators to have a “back seat driver.” They explain it this way – two sets of eyes are better than one. They go so far as to say it is in everyone’s best interest when a man’s wife helps him drive.


This theory does have some difficulties however. For instance, if an obstruction (a horse, for example) enters the road, it is humanly impossible to get your foot off the accelerator and on the brake before your wife screams. In addition, this conjecture implies if your wife advises you to stop and get directions, you probably are lost.

Even when the husband’s ego is big enough to accept the hypothesis of a needed

Dr. H. Wade Paris

Shepherd Calls

Guest columnist



wife/copilot, there is a problem of communication. “Ooo, Ooo, Ooo,” can mean you just missed the turn, there is a patrol officer, or I really need a pit stop. “Was that our highway?” means I forgot to tell you when to turn. The word stop sounded at 150 decibels means stop right now. She obviously does not realize you can beat that oncoming truck. The absence of all communication likely has

nothing to do with auto safety but means you are in the dog-house.

Most husbands and wives can readily relate to the illustrations above. Travel talk often tests our marital commitment. These experiences are indicative of our human need to be in charge and be right. Even when we realize we are wrong, we want to be right. Returning home from a meeting, a man’s wife said, “I think we are going the wrong way.”

“No,” he insisted vehemently, “I have been here many times. This is right.” The next interstate marker told him he was headed in the opposite direction. Yet, he went through two more markers before he could admit it

and turn around.

These anecdotes have manifold applications. Generally, two sets of eyes are better than one. Sometimes our eyes refuse to “see” what we see. The story of David and Bathsheba is a good example. The prophet Nathan could see what David refused to see.

The human ego is quite strong. Mankind does not like to admit wrongdoing. If it is difficult to admit driving in the wrong direction, think how difficult it is to confess sins that damn our souls.

Jesus said it this way, “Mankind prefers to live in darkness than to confess his deeds are evil”. (John 3:19) To put it in modern vernacular, “I’d rather go to hell than admit I’m wrong.”



Deer Creek Baptist begins renovation

Deer Creek Baptist Church and its members started Dec. 7 what will soon be a total remodeling of the church’s main sanctuary. The project will take approximately five months to complete and will be done by Brantley Construction. Worship services are being held in the church’s Family Life Center. Pictured above are (from left) Carol Wayne Croft, Danny Gibson, Addam Whitt, Mark Farmer, Marc Lewis, Kenny Bell and Joe Heady. To the left is Josh Brown and Denise Byarley.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

Church notes

- The Marion Baptist Family Life Center’s weight room and walking track will be open 5-8 p.m., Mondays, 5-6 p.m., Tuesdays and 6-8 p.m., Thursdays. Upward practice will begin at 5 p.m., Mondays, Tuesdays and 6 p.m., Thursdays.
- St. William Catholic Church will celebrate Christian Unity Week through Jan. 25, with a free supper from 5-7 p.m., Jan. 20. The meal will consist of a soup, sandwich, drink and dessert. Donations will be accepted for the Crittenden County Ministerial Association.
- Deer Creek Baptist Church will have a worship service at 11 a.m., Sunday filled with music and testimonies by several young people. Those scheduled to participate include Casey Freeman, Megan Sherrell, Addam Whitt, Emily Adams, Madison Champion, Hope Sherrell, Marcus Hughes, Taylor Champion, Jessi Brewer, Shelby Robinson, Maeson Myers, Danielle Byarley and more. For more information, call the church at 965-2220.
- Maranatha Baptist Church will have a community singing at 6 p.m., Saturday. Finger foods will be available following the service.
- Calvary Baptist Church will host its fifth Sunday singing, featuring the Crossmen Quartet at 11 a.m., Jan. 29. There is no admission, but a love offering is being taken.
- Marion Baptist Church will have AWANA for children ages three through fifth grade at 5:45 p.m., Sunday night. Also offered Sunday nights are a financial peace class at 6 p.m., and many other Bible study classes that begin at 6:30 p.m., including Tae-Bo, a faith-based exercise class.

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January 29
11:00 a.m.

Free Admission
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For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.
— Matthew 18:20



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Children's church provided
Sunday night | 6 p.m.
Thursday night | 7 p.m.



Emmanuel Baptist Church

Bro. Dennis Winn, pastor

108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion, Ky. • 965-4623

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. • Sunday Evening 6 p.m.
Wednesday 6 p.m. Adult Bible Study • Children and Youth Activities
www.ebmarion.org



Mexico Baptist Church

175 Mexico Road, (270) 965-4059

Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Discipleship Training 6 p.m. • Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m. • Wednesday Service 7 p.m.

Pastor Tim Burdon
Minister of Music Mike Crabtree

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Central Baptist Church

721 S. Main St., Marion

We invite you to be our guest

Bro. J.D. Graham, pastor

Sunday Bible Study at 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship at 10:45 a.m., and 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study at 7 p.m.



Marion United Methodist Church

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The People of the United Methodist Church

Rev. Wayne Garvey, pastor

Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
www.the-press.com/MARIONUnitedmethodist.html



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2925 U.S. 641, Marion

Sunday services 9 a.m. and 10:45am | Wednesday services 7pm

➤ Chris and Sue McDonald, pastors



Barnett Chapel General Baptist Church

• Sunday school: 9:45 a.m. Bro. Steve Tinsley, pastor
• Sunday worship: 11 a.m.
• Sunday evening: 6 p.m.
• Wednesday night Bible study: 6 p.m.

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State Route 506 - Marion, Kentucky

Sunday School 10 a.m. - Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Bible Study 6 p.m.

Pastor Daniel Hopkins

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Marion Baptist Church

College and Depot, Marion • 965-5232

• Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
• Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
• Awana, 5:45 p.m., beginning Oct. 9

Pastor Mike Jones



Crayne Community Church

Crayne Cemetery Road
Marion, Kentucky

Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.
Sunday school, 10 a.m. | Sunday worship, 11 a.m.



Marion Church of God

334 Fords Ferry Road • Marion, Kentucky

Sunday School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.

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Lucy Tedrick, pastor



St. William Catholic Church

Sunday Mass 11 a.m.

Father Gregory Trawick

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Marion, Ky.
965-2477



Unity General Baptist Church

4691 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky.

Barry Hix, pastor • 365-5836 or 625-1248

Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.



Frances Presbyterian Church

Bro. Butch Gray • Bro. A.C. Hodge

Wednesday night prayer meeting and youth service - 7PM
Sunday school - 10AM • Worship service - 11AM
Sunday evening service - 6PM



Caldwell Springs Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor Bill McMican

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Sunday and Wednesday evening services, 6:30 p.m.



PHOTO PROVIDED

After several months of correspondence, Miles Belt of Tolu visited his sweetheart Dorothea Stilgenbauer in Ohio. The city girl returned the visit to the Tolu community at the invitation of Belt's parents. Above, the couple sits on a creature unfamiliar to Stilgenbauer, a horse, during her visit to Crittenden County. Inset below is a picture of the couple on their wedding day.

LOVE

Continued from Page 1

ance and politely asked that the stranger upriver reply. From there, nearly two years of correspondence followed, including their first in-person meeting.

Hodge recalled that her dad always enjoyed telling the story of how the couple met for the first time. Belt was the first to make the trip to meet his romantic pen pal, but somehow had made it to the wrong house once he arrived.

"Daddy always loved telling us kids that story," Hodge said. "He had gone to Liverpool to meet Momma for the first time. He said when he knocked on the door, a big ole woman answered. Of course, he later figured out he had gone to the wrong house, but it was funny seeing him tell the story."

Belt eventually found Stilgenbauer, and the correspondence by mail continued after that initial meeting. According to Hodge, her mother traveled to Tolu at the invitation of Belt's parents not long after. Life in Kentucky, especially down around the sleepy Tolu community, was much different than the city life in Ohio where Stilgenbauer made her living as a beautician. She was used to running water and electricity, somewhat of a rarity at that time in rural Crittenden County.

"Daddy's family didn't have any of that. They had to haul their water. They didn't have much, but they made-do with what they did," Hodge said. "It's funny looking back on the pictures and seeing momma riding a horse or hauling water, because it was something that she wasn't used to."

On her first visit from Ohio to meet Belt, Stilgenbauer caught a bus to Marion where her eventual husband picked her up in a dusty farm truck. On the way back to his house, the truck got hung up in the mud.

"Roads back then were dirt, so it was common to get stuck," Hodge said. "Momma wasn't used to it though. Daddy said that when he discovered he couldn't get loose, he honked and honked until someone came to help. I could only imagine what Momma was thinking. She definitely wasn't used to that."

Though the couple was from different worlds, their love for one another drew them together. Throughout the years of correspondence and visits, their love for one another became obvious. On Nov. 7, 1938, they exchanged marriage vows. The couple resided in Liverpool for a few months, but after the birth of Hodge in 1939, they moved back to Kentucky where they had three more children, Anna Rae, Phillip and the late Roy Belt.

The couple was married for 17 years before Hodge's mother became ill in 1955. She was later diagnosed with breast cancer. Though she was in the hospital, the couple still celebrated their 17th anniversary together. Belt brought a bouquet of red roses to her bedside, one for every year they had been

married.

"We were poor," Hodge said. "We really didn't have any money, so we never knew where or how he was able to get those roses, but he made sure Momma had them. Daddy loved her so much."

Just a few short weeks later, Hodge's mother passed away on Nov. 26, 1955 at the young age of 44.

"He was distraught. He was left with four children to care for," Hodge said. "But he knew he had to do it. He had to raise us, and he did. He didn't date or remarry until eight years later when he married our stepmother, Ruby. She was such a good person and never tried to take our mother's place. We were glad to have her."

Though only 16 at the time of her mother's passing, Hodge says seeing the strength of her parents' relationship made her stronger. Though they were two very different people, they still loved one another dearly.

"I can't recall ever seeing them argue," Hodge said. "My mother always said that it didn't do any good for two people to get mad at the same time. Daddy could be hot-tempered at times, but I never did see Momma lose hers. She had a way of calming daddy down."

"Seeing that and seeing how they felt about one another made me realize that I wanted something like that of my own, and I guess I modeled my life after my momma's. She set a good example for us kids."

Though Belt remarried and was very happy in life, he never forgot the love he had for his children's mother. In 1998, right before Belt passed away, he told his children that he wanted to be buried with the letters he had written Stilgenbauer all those years ago. In all, there were almost 40 letters, yellowed with time.

"That meant something to us kids, hearing that he wanted to have those letters with him," Hodge said. "He always loved her but before we fulfilled his request, we asked our stepmother first because we didn't want to hurt her feelings. Ruby was just a wonderful stepmom, and we didn't want to do anything that would offend her. When we asked her about it, she understood and gave us the consent."

Although Hodge and the rest of her siblings had access to the letters before her father's funeral, she said that none were ever read. They wanted to keep the bond that drew their parents together private.

"That was theirs and it was private," Hodge said. "We wanted it to stay that way."

Hodge herself has thrown bottles with messages into the river, roughly a dozen by her count, but she says she's never received anything back.

"When you think of Momma and Daddy's story, you can't help but think of how special that immediate bond was for them to be taken with one another right off the bat," Hodge said. "I know they loved one another very much and even after all those years and remarrying, Daddy still kept those letters."

OBITUARIES

Richardson

Edgar "Clay" Richardson, 86, of Marion died Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012 at Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services.

He is survived by one brother, Nelvin Richardson of Picayune, Miss.; and one sister, Imogene Moore, also of Picayune.

Richardson was preceded in death by his parents, Nelvin and Rowena Richardson; two brothers; and four sisters.

Funeral services were Friday at Gilbert Funeral Home. Burial was in Chapel Hill Cemetery.

Sparks

Timothy Allen Sparks, 55, died Thursday, Jan. 11, 2012 in Overland Park, Kans.

Sparks, a loving husband and father, was born April 4, 1956 in Olive Hill, Ky., to Rosa Louise and Allen Eugene Sparks. He was a 1974 graduate of West Carter High in Carter County, Ky.

At the time of passing, Sparks was an employee of Burns & McDonnell Engineering Kansas City as Senior PDS Piping Designer of engineering. He was previously employed by Chicago Bridge and Iron of Chicago as senior designer of engineering, Linde Process Plants of Tulsa, Okla., as senior piping designer and retired from Air Products of Calvert City as designer engineer in 2000.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Louise Barnett Sparks of Tulsa; his father, Allen Eugene Sparks, of Olive Hill, one daughter, Sarah Sparks Sweeney of Tulsa; one son, James Matthew Sparks of Ledbetter; one brother, Steven Sparks of Olive Hill; and three grandchildren, Trinity, Alex and Lucy of Tulsa.

Funeral services were Wednesday in the Chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors, with burial to follow in Dyer Hill Cemetery.

Condolences may be left online at boydfuneraldirectors.com.

(Editor's note: Extended obituaries require a nominal fee. Ask your funeral director about placing fee-based obituaries.)

What's bugging you?

By Jill Croft
Advanced Practice
Registered Nurse
Crittenden Health Systems

What's bugging us this week...

Upper respiratory infections, bronchitis, sinusitis, pneumonia and a lot of cough and congestion. So far, I know of no reported cases of influenza. Most of these illnesses are viral, not requiring antibiotics. Viral illnesses usually last from seven to 10 days and can be treated symptomatically with over-the-counter medications. If you have questions regarding your symptoms or over-the-counter meds, consult your pharmacist or family provider. Stay warm, drink lots of water and wash, wash, wash those hands!

2012 starts with 22 traffic deaths

Kentucky State Police regularly report year-to-date traffic fatalities across the commonwealth. Below, the number of deaths through Monday are represented alongside the difference from the same period in 2011.

2012 DEATHS	CHANGE FROM 2011	ALCOHOL RELATED
Deaths22+73
MODE	DEATHS	NO SAFETY EQUIPMENT
Automobile	2011
Motorcycle	11
Pedestrian	1n/a

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TIP OF THE WEEK

Setting short-term and long-term goals are key to staying on track. Make realistic goals that are attainable and establish rewards that are not food-related. For example, drop a pant size and reward yourself with a new pair of jeans.

THANK YOU

The family of Judy Easley would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, thoughts, prayers, calls and all acts of kindness during the period of illness and mourning at the loss of our beloved wife and mother.

May God bless you.

Jack & Mark Easley and Family

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If you are interested in prearranging a funeral or if you experience the loss of a loved one, please feel free to call us at any time about our services.

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Steps of Faith combines health, charities

BY JERRITT HOVEY-BROWN
PRESS REPORTER

When Tracye Newcom, a registered dietician for Health Quest Wellness Center, came up with the idea for the Steps of Faith fitness program, she never dreamed that it would yield such an amazing response.

The idea to create a six-week program that would help motivate participants into becoming healthy started as an early New Year resolution and eventually grew from there.

"Working with clients that came through Health Quest, I was seeing so many that wanted to lose weight and knew what to do but needed the support system to do it," Newcom said. "I started thinking of ways I could make a program like this happen and I started approaching community fitness leaders to see if they would be interested in helping."

Newcom presented her idea of a six-week program to New You fitness trainer Heather Culvey, CHS medical doctor Rex Manayan and Marion Zumba Crew instructors

Laura Wood and Mary Jo Holzer-Mills, all of whom agreed that it would be a great idea.

"They never hesitated when I asked if they would be interested in helping," Newcom said.

The program offers a four-day schedule alternating yoga, zumba and cardio classes, as well as weights. Valued at \$300, Newcom wanted to keep the cost somewhere around what she thought would help draw interested people in. Partnering with four local organizations, Crittenden County Elementary School, Life in Christ Church and its Paperbox Ministry, Mary Hall Ruddiman Canine Shelter and the food pantry at Marion United Methodist Church, Newcom was able to offer Steps of Faith free for those interested in return for donations to any of the four organizations. Newcom thought that maybe 30 or 40 would sign-up. The total number of participants is 125, with 10-20 more doing just gym work.

"Never did I think that this

program would have had such a great response," Newcom said. "We had to go as far as locking the door on the night of registration, turning people away. I was blown away by the response. I just wanted to be able to offer something that would teach whole body wellness, while still being fun and affordable."

Because of the large turnout, a few of the classes are being offered two times each day.

Steps of Faith has almost completed its second full week of workouts and Newcom says the feedback from participants is encouraging.

"They're having fun while getting in shape," Newcom said. "It's a good vibe overall. I'm hopeful that even after these six weeks are up, people will continue their fitness."

Since Health Quest is a sponsor of the program, chiropractor Johnny Newcom is offering a free exam and physicals to the participants while Newcom offers nutritional counseling for those interested. And because of the large turnout, Newcom said



PHOTO BY JERRITT HOVEY-BROWN

Dr. Rex Manayan, a medical doctor at Crittenden Health Systems, works with Janice Miller during yoga Monday night. Yoga is held at two different times on Monday evenings as part of the Steps of Faith program.

that it could be possible that Steps of Faith will be an annual event.

"I believe in paying it for-

ward and feel like this is something our community needs," Newcom said. "It's a way of motivating and en-

couraging each other while still being fun and producing a social atmosphere."

Schools try to manage after more budget cuts

STAFF REPORT

Dr. Rachel Yarbrough has been the Crittenden County School District's superintendent for four years. During that time, she has seen several financial cuts handed down to school districts across the nation, but never did she realize just how much those cuts totaled. A spreadsheet detailing the district's losses showed the superintendent that Crittenden County has lost \$1.5 million in state and federal funding since she has headed the school system.

"My jaw literally hit the floor," Yarbrough said. "I knew we had undergone quite a bit in regards to those cuts, but I never imagined it was quite that much."

The spreadsheet came about after a recent announcement by Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holliday that a two percent mid-year budget cut would be made across the board. The cut totals approximately \$6 million for the Kentucky Department of Education. Other cuts that affected Crittenden resulted in a \$122,000 adjustment in the Support Education Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK) funding.

And the news didn't get

any better

on Tuesday when Gov. Steve Beshear announced another seven to nine percent cut in state funding for fiscal year 2013-14 in his biennial budget address to the state legislature.

"Since I've been here, regardless what is told to schools regarding state or federal cuts, we always budget at least five percent more," Yarbrough said. "This helps to provide a cushion for us and prepare for what we know is already coming as far as mid-year appropriations."

Budget cuts have created a "Chicken Little" storyline that is quickly becoming reality, with financial resources to becoming more scarce. School districts across the state are left wondering what will happen next.

Because of cuts early on in her tenure, Yarbrough said the Crittenden County Board of Education has had the mindset of being as resourceful as possible. This includes putting in place an



Yarbrough

energy efficiency team at the schools, combining positions when possible and preparing for deeper cuts than originally announced.

"We're at a critical juncture, and we're doing the best that we can," Yarbrough said. "It's just difficult when we don't always know ahead of time what percentage a cut will be. It seems that about every year, right in the middle of the school year, we receive cuts."

Because of the mid-year cut in funding, several state and federal programs are being affected like Family Resource and Youth Services Center, Title I, Read to Achieve and Gear Up. Other areas suffering include funds for textbooks, which have been completely eliminated.

"It's a little disheartening, but we're trying to find ways of giving ourselves a cushion," Yarbrough said. "We've been able to absorb some of those cuts in the past, and we hope to be able to continue doing that."



Sen. Ridley

It's not just Crittenden County Schools that have felt the financial pressure from budgeting cuts – several education advocacy groups have joined forces to create a coalition, asking Gov. Beshear and lawmakers to increase funding.

Sen. Dorsey Ridley, who represents Crittenden County in the state senate, has fought to avoid cuts in education funding. He believes any reduction in funding that affects schools is too much.

"All cuts to education, in my opinion, never heal," the Henderson Democrat said.

According to a recent press release, the Kentucky Education Action Team (KEAT) is a coalition formed of seven groups that include Kentucky Association of School Administrators, Kentucky Association of School Councils, Kentucky Association of School Superintendents, Kentucky Parent-Teacher Association, Kentucky Education Association and more. The coalition complained in a Capitol press conference that public schools have taken financial hits in the economic recession that has caused a combined \$1 billion in shortfalls over the past four years. The coalition called on state

leaders to restore SEEK funding, the primary source of money for the state's public schools, and to provide the cash needed to purchase textbooks and to fully fund other school programs critical to students' education. According to KEAT, SEEK funding has declined from \$4,230 per student in 2008 to \$3,769.

Sharron Oxendine, president of the Kentucky Education Association, said that lawmakers need to know that funding cuts have negative effects in classrooms. Members of the education association see those impacts every day.

While the cuts have caused Crittenden County school officials to become wary of possible future cuts, Yarbrough said that everything is being done to ensure that students still receive the highest education.

"I want Crittenden County to be rich with opportunities and provide our students with the tools necessary to make that happen," Yarbrough said. "We've been fortunate to have grants that have helped us to update our technology."

"We're doing the best we can with what we have."

Kentucky ranks higher on survey

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kentucky has jumped from No. 34 to No. 14 in an annual education survey.

The ranking comes in this year's "Quality Counts" issue of Education Week, a national publication that focuses on preschool through 12th grade education. The report grades states on policy efforts and outcomes and tracks key indicators.

Gov. Steve Beshear's office says the report ranked Kentucky 14th for its work on academic standards, the teaching profession and other variables.

"Kentuckians should take a great deal of pride in the commonwealth's standing related to P-12 education," Beshear said.

The report assigns overall letter grades based on average scores in six categories. Kentucky's overall grade this year was a C-plus, up from a C, which was the national average both last year and this year. No state received an A. The highest ranking state was Maryland with a B-plus.

The full report is available at www.edweek.org.

Just because it's winter doesn't mean you can't enjoy outdoors

Winter is no excuse for staying indoors! Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder, tells us that "there's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothes." He argues that for younger generations of children – and adults – nature is something to watch, consume, wear or ignore.

Children are taught to avoid direct nature experiences. Yet, research finds that our mental, physical and spiritual health is dependent to a large degree on our direct contact with nature.

To counter the trend of staying indoors or in the car playing video games, Louv suggests many ways to play outdoors, even in winter. Dress in waterproof, warm clothes and boots. Then, when it is raining, "pour



Nancy Hunt
Home Notes

UK Cooperative Extension Agent

outdoors." Go puddle-stomping, ditch-damming and leaf-boat-ing.

Learn from the sky about the various types of clouds and their meanings for weather. Two great books about the sky and clouds and building a backyard weather station are The Cloudspotter's Guide by Gavin Pretor-Pinney, and The Kids' Book of Weather Forecasting by Mark Breen, Kathleen Friestad and Michael Kline.

Try wildlife photography with

small digital cameras for stashing in pockets.

In winter, without leaves on the trees, birds, animals and their tracks in mud or snow are more easily seen. The zoom feature permits exciting close-ups and settings are sensitive for lower light conditions. Which tracks belong to which creatures? Walk quietly in the woods!

Select a tree for special watching all year long. Yes, you can hug it!

Photographs and stories can highlight its life during every season. In winter, it can be fun to notice how the snow falls on it or where the moss grows. Are there more branches that grow on one side than another? Such growth patterns show the way the wind blows against it most of the time.

The tree protects itself by growing more branches on the side away from the wind. What does the tree look like after a big windstorm? Did some branches fall to the ground? Which ones? In winter, you can create bark rubbings and compare the patterns to other trees.

Studying bark is one way to identify the species of trees. As March rolls around and the tree shows signs of life, record them with your camera. It is fascinating to watch the formation of buds and their opening to reveal the baby leaves.

In areas of abundant snowfall, children like to dig a snow cave and go sledding. There is endless fun and healthy exercise in the winter months.

Dress for the weather and enjoy!



Liz Travis and Rita Travis took The Press to Mt. Rushmore, S.D. last fall. They also visited the Badlands and Devil's Tower, Wyo.



John Wardlaw spent fall break with his great-grandchildren, Carly Porter, Peyton Porter and other family members on a Disney Cruise to the Bahamas.

Croft welcomed at Crittenden Health Systems

Crittenden Health Systems held a reception for new nurse practitioner Jill Croft. Pictured are (from left) Sturgis Pictures Tim and Jennifer Faulkner, Croft and Robin Curnel, the hospital's nursing director. Croft is now seeing patients at the hospital's medical office building, located on the hospital campus.



Boy Scouts clean up Weston Cemetery

STAFF REPORT

Proving Boy Scouts do more than help little old ladies across the street, a recent project undertaken by a local troop gave some dignity back to the final resting place of members of one Crittenden County community.

The story began last autumn, when Eddie and Paulette Myers took an excursion to take pictures of the beautiful fall foliage around the county. On their drive, the couple discovered an unkept Weston Cemetery along the Ohio River.

"It was so grown up it looked like a jungle, and you could barely tell that it was even a cemetery," said Sandra Easley, the Myerses' daughter.

The sight of the overgrown burial plots and headstones bothered Eddie so much that he began doing a little research. He soon found out it had been several years since anyone had cared for the cemetery.

Because the cemetery lies on private property, Eddie was unable to acquire the help of inmates from Crittenden County Detention Center, so he turned to his daughter for a little guidance.

"He then asked me if the scouts did work like that," Easley said. "I told him sure, they do all kinds of community service."

That set the ball in motion, and Jan. 7 was chosen for the day local Boy Scout Troop 30 would undertake the project.

"Needless to say, my dad was a little skeptical because you never know what January weather may bring," Easley said. "As it turned out,



PHOTO PROVIDED
Pictured above after cleanup of Weston Cemetery are (from left) Jewell and Fay Miller, Ricky Atkins, Warren Martin, Benny Tucker, Tom Easley, Chase Stevens, Jonathan Suggs, Dave Sizemore, Dayton Simpkins, Carsen Easley, Logan Harris, Travis McKinney, Carolee Harris, Colton Poindexter, Eddie Myers, Ryan James, Clay Stevens, Brenda Underdown and Pat James. Not pictured are Cody and Tony Harris, Sandra Easley and Weston residents.

it was the perfect day! It was a little cool that morning, but it warmed up just enough, and we actually worked up a sweat."

Thirteen Scouts and as many adults — Scout leaders, parents, friends and Weston residents — showed up to do the work.

I have to admit, when I first looked at the cemetery, I didn't think it could be done in one day," Easley said of the task at hand. "It really did

look like a jungle."

After several hours of work, Weston Cemetery looked like a different place. The group pulled weeds and briars, raked, used weed eaters and chainsaws and one of the locals even brought his tractor to help with the work. Fallen trees and branches had to be cut up and carried because no clean-up had been done since the ice storms of 2008 and 2009. Several piles of debris were left to be burned.

"At the end of the day, Weston residents were very pleased with the way the cemetery looked," Easley said. "They were truly thankful for all the hard work."

One of the local couples, Steve and Sheena Hosch, even bought the troop pizza and drinks for lunch.

"A special thanks goes to them for their kindness," Easley said.

Livingston County will open library doors next month

STAFF REPORT

For Livingston County residents, a trip to the library is about to get a little shorter.

A trip to the library for the county's 9,800 population used to mean a half-hour trip across county lines to Marion or Paducah. That's about to change.

Early next month, Livingston County will open its first-ever public library, 213 years after the county was founded. According to 91.3 WKMS FM, Murray State University's public radio station, the library project has been almost a decade in the making. Livingston County Judge-Executive Chris Lasher said efforts started in earnest about five years ago when designs were finalized and fundraising started.

Lasher told WKMS the Friends of the Library group raised almost \$215,000 to

provide books and equipment for the library. Among the new library's amenities will be 13 computers for public use, Wi-Fi, space for more than 16,000 books and DVD rentals.

Lasher says the library will be housed in a new \$4.2 million building that will also contain county government offices. The decision to house them in the same building will save money in the long run, he told the public radio station.

The judge-executive said the library will be a great asset to the community and will provide resources for children and adults in the area. He said a library is a cornerstone for any community and looks forward to seeing it in action when it opens in early February.



ARTISTIC RENDERING
Livingston County's first public library since the county was formed in 1799 is set to open in early February.

Advertising on school buses a possibility if approved by legislature

STAFF REPORT

Advertising on buses is often seen in larger cities, usually adorning public transportation. With a recently-filed bill in the Kentucky House of Representatives, advertising could possibly be seen on the sides of school buses in the commonwealth.

Proposed by Rep. Terry Mills (D-Lebanon), House Bill 30 at press time was expected to go to the House floor this week for vote. If passed, the measure would

then go to the Senate for consideration. If approved there, it could allow public school districts to start using the sides of buses as advertising space in the hope of bringing in extra revenue for the schools.

Mills estimated that districts could make \$1,000 per bus each year. The bill also allows each board of education to have the authority over the content of advertising, prohibiting promotion of such items as alcohol, tobacco and political

ads.

Despite the income potential, superintendents across the state are leery of the bill, citing concern over safety issues.

Crittenden County Schools Superintendent Dr. Rachel Yarbrough said that before the district would allow advertising, every angle would be assessed.

"We would have to carefully consider what that might look like for Crittenden County," Dr. Yarbrough said. "There are concerns

regarding safety and whether the advertising would be too distracting for vehicles.

"I'm not sure that this would be the best way to generate revenue. Before we would allow it, we would be very cautious and would have to set some type of limitations."

In an unscientific poll at The Press Online, readers voted 2-to-1 that advertising on schools buses would be a big mistake.



Taylor and Madison Champion greeted customers during the Jake Hodge Scholarship fundraiser. They accepted money that was tied to a donation tree. More than \$5,000 was raised in donations.

Several turn out for Hodge fundraiser

The recent Jake Hodge Scholarship fundraiser event held at the Oasis restaurant yielded 456 people dining from 4 p.m. - closing. During the December event, Oasis also reached a "golden hour," grossing more in one hour than when the restaurant first opened.

The event raised \$5,704.42 in donations for the scholarship fund, according to Chris Hodge, raising the foundation amount to \$87,760. Denis Hodge's goal for the foundation is to reach \$100,000. The foundation will also receive 10 percent of gross sales from food and drinks that totaled a little more than \$10,000, as well as \$160 that was donated by the servers from the sale of gift cards.

ThePressCALENDAR

Thursday, Jan. 19

■ Crittenden County Inter-Agency Council will meet at 9 a.m., Thursday (today) at the Extension office. Mark Bryant, city manager, will provide the program.

■ The Crittenden Health Systems auxiliary will meet at 4 p.m., today (Thursday) in the Marion Ed-Tech Center.

■ Market House Theatre presents performances of the deer hunting comedy, Escanaba in Da Moonlight, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday through Saturday. Call 444-6828 for more information.

Friday, Jan. 20

■ The Crittenden County Extension District Board will meet at 1 p.m., Friday at the Extension office.

■ Woman's Club of Marion is accepting entries in their youth short story and poetry contests through noon, Jan. 20. Contact Nancy Hunt at 704-0057 for a complete list of rules. Contest is open to students in grades K-12.

■ Diabetes Support Group will meet at 10 a.m., Friday at the Crittenden County Extension Office. The program will be provided by Susan Brown of Crittenden Health Systems and will cover heart disease and how it affects diabetes. Meeting is open to the public. For more information, call 965-5236.

Monday, Jan. 23

■ The Crittenden County High School Site Base Decision Making

Council will meet at 4 p.m., Monday in the CCHS teachers' conference room.

■ Crittenden County Tomorrow will meet at 6:30 p.m., Monday at Fohs Hall. It meets every fourth Monday of the month.

Tuesday, Jan. 24

■ Free diabetes self management classes will be held from 12-4 p.m., Tuesday and Jan. 31 at the Marion Ed-Tech Center. Kelly Dawes, District Health Department Certified Diabetes Educator, will be the instructor. To register, call 965-5215. Program is sponsored by the Crittenden County Health Department and Extension Service.

Upcoming

■ Livingston Hospital and Healthcare Services will sponsor a health check from 9-11 a.m., Jan. 26 at the Crittenden County Senior Citizens Center.

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BASKETBALL

High School schedule

Crittenden County Games

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

TUESDAY
Lady Rockets at Union County

FRIDAY, JAN. 27
Rockets host Hopkinsville

GIRLS' ALL A CLASSIC FIRST ROUND

MONDAY
Top Bracket
Livingston Central 59, Lyon Co. 39
Webster County 66, Caldwell Co. 27
Bottom Bracket
Crittenden 57, Dawson Springs 44
University Heights 53, Trigg Co. 45

Semifinals and Championship
At Dawson Springs

THURSDAY
Livingston vs. Webster, 6 p.m.
Crittenden vs. UHA, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
Championship, 6 p.m.

BOYS' ALL A CLASSIC FIRST ROUND

TUESDAY
Top Bracket
Livingston Central 53, Crittenden 51
Webster County 81, Caldwell Co. 35
Bottom Bracket
University Heights 54, Lyon Co. 38
Trigg County 92, Dawson Springs 52

Semifinals and Championship
At Dawson Springs

FRIDAY
Livingston Central vs. Webster, 6 p.m.
UHA vs. Trigg County, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY
Championship, 8 p.m.

Follow the Crittenden County basketball teams online

cchcrockethaskethall.blogspot.com

Murray State No. 12

Associated Press Top 25

Undefeated Murray State, riding its best start in school history, is now ranked 12th in the country. That's the highest MSU has ever been ranked.

Rank	Team	Record	Pts
1	Syracuse (60)	19-0	1,619
2	Kentucky (4)	17-1	1,558
3	Baylor (1)	17-0	1,503
4	Duke	15-2	1,380
5	Missouri	16-1	1,335
6	Ohio State	16-3	1,312
7	Kansas	14-3	1,218
8	North Carolina	15-3	1,172
9	Michigan State	15-3	1,119
10	Georgetown	14-3	884
11	Indiana	15-3	858
12	Murray State	18-0	825
13	Connecticut	14-3	807
14	UNLV	16-3	651
15	Virginia	14-2	649
16	San Diego State	15-2	621
17	Florida	14-4	596
18	Mississippi State	15-3	590
19	Creighton	16-2	471
20	Michigan	14-4	461
21	Marquette	14-4	278
22	Illinois	15-3	257
23	Louisville	14-4	208
24	Saint Mary's	17-2	167
25	Kansas State	12-4	102

OUTDOORS

Upcoming seasons

Deer Archery	Sept. 3-Jan. 16
Deer Turkey	Sept. 3-Jan. 16
Bobcat	Nov. 19-Jan. 31
Rabbit	Nov. 15-Feb. 10
Quail	Nov. 14-Feb. 10
Duck	Dec. 5-Jan. 29
Goose	Nov. 23-Jan. 31
Youth Waterfowl	Feb. 4-5
Crow	Jan. 4-Feb. 29
Groundhog	Year Round
Coyote	Year Round



Crittenden County has four boys' traveling basketball teams competing in action throughout western Kentucky this season. Four teams participated in a tournament at Murray State two weeks ago and last weekend Crittenden's second-grade team played in the Best of the Best Tournament at the Paducah Regional Sports Plex. Pictured above are second graders Tanner Beverly (tying up the ball against a Graves County player), Luke Crider and Jack Reddick.

Croft brings lucky charm to Cards

STAFF REPORT

A charm?
Not hardly.
More like Third Time Lucky.
Livingston Central's threepeat over the Rockets came in the form of a last-quarter gift from the Cardinals' Mr. Dependable, Lucas Croft.

It was the third meeting between the teams in a month. Nine and 14 points had separated to two in previous encounters during the regular season. Tuesday, in the opening round of the All A Classic at Smithland, the Rockets were wearing their underdog role with visible swagger.

Crittenden handcuffed the Cardinals' top two players – Croft and Kenneth Cowser – for much of the game. However, Crittenden failed to protect a six-point, fourth-quarter lead from Croft and Company, letting Livingston celebrate the win 53-51.

“We’ve gotten better,” a dejected Rocket coach Denis Hodge said. “The kids executed our game plan perfectly. They did everything we asked them to do.”

Still, in the end, Livingston had the Croft Factor. Arguably the best player in the district, Croft took over down the stretch. He had scored just single buckets in each of the first three periods. Yet in the final period, the 6-foot-4 senior dropped in four fielders and three foul shots, tallying 11 of the Cardinals' final 15 points.

Croft finished with 25 points, but Cowser got just nine, more than 10 below his average.

“The way you play at tournament time is what defines you as a team,” Hodge said. “This group was ready as it could have possibly been.”

The Rockets outshot Livingston 50 percent to 40 from the floor and outrebounded their hosts 34-26.

The game was close the whole way. Livingston was ahead by four twice in the first half before a 23-23 tie at the break.

Rocket forward Bobby Knox had 11 of his team-high 17 points in the first half. Knox was able to take advantage of the Livingston defense by driving to the basket down the left side of the lane like a professional southpaw. He also had 11 rebounds, a game high.

Crittenden had a six-point lead early in the final quarter before Croft reeled off four straight buckets and a couple of foul shots to put his boys up by three. Livingston stepped up its defense, too, and Cowser scored from the baseline off a drive-and-dish assist by Austin Wright. That gave Livingston



Rocket Thomas Scott looks inside as Livingston's Lucas Croft applies the defense. Croft scored 25 points in the All A Classic game at Smithland.

its largest lead of the game, a five-point edge with 3:15 to play.

Crittenden got a three-pointer from Thomas Scott off the wing and Knox shot a fade-away 10 footer with just under a minute left to pull within 52-51.

In transition, Livingston's Jonathon Armstrong took Crittenden defender Ethan Hill on the dribble to the basket, but missed a hurried layup and the Rockets rebounded with 35 seconds to go.

On the other end, in the Rocket half court offense, it looked like the ball was trapped in the far corner from the Crittenden bench. Coach Hodge quickly asked for a timeout, and simultaneously Scott got free and sank a shot. The bucket was waved off, though, and Crittenden got its time out, trailing by a point with 22 seconds left.

The Rockets almost lost possession on an inbounds play out of the timeout. However, Travis Gilbert grabbed the loose ball and started the offense in motion, getting Scott open at the top of the key for an off-balance jumper that ricocheted off the right side of the rim right into the hands of Croft. He was promptly fouled and sank the first

of two in the double bonus to win the game by a pair.

“I hope this was a glimpse of things to come,” Hodge said after the game, knowing full well that his team gets another shot at Livingston in the opening round of the Fifth District Tournament.

Marshals shoot lights out

Crittenden County ran into perhaps the best team in the First Region Saturday night at Draffenville. Marshall County shot 49 percent for the game and won by 27 points. The Marshals are 17-1 this season.

Thomas Scott and Bobby Knox scored 16 and 12, respectively, and Devin Clark had 15 rebounds.

Rockets finish fourth in league

Crittenden lost a crucial Fifth District game at home Friday against Lyon County. A victory would have given the Rockets third seed in the district and a first-round tournament pairing against Trigg County.

Now, the Rockets finish winless in district play and will face league leader Livingston Central again in the opening round of the post-sea-

ROCKETS

At a Glance

Fifth District Boys

Team	Overall	District
Livingston Central	14-6	6-0
Trigg County	16-4	4-2
Lyon County	6-11	2-4
Crittenden County	6-13	0-6

Fifth District Girls

Team	Overall	District
Livingston Central	15-2	6-0
Trigg County	9-8	2-4
Lyon County	5-13	4-2
Crittenden County	2-15	0-6

son district tournament.
The game against Lyon was close until the fourth period when the Lyons extended their lead to double digits.

Thomas Scott scored 14 for the Rockets and had a team-high seven rebounds. Lyon County got 23 points from Warren Sutton.

ALL A CLASSIC FIRST ROUND

Livingston Central 53, Crittenden County 51
Crittenden County 11 12 17 11
Livingston Central 11 12 13 17
Crittenden - Clark 6, Hill 6, Knox 17, Scott 14, Gilbert 2, Owen 6, Dickerson. Field Goals 22-44, 3-pointers 2-10 (Scott 2-6). Free Throws 5-9. Rebounds 34 (Knox 11). Fouls 20.
Livingston - A.Cronch 4, Woodward 5, Wring, Armstrong 2, Wright 1, Cowser 9, Love 2, Croft 25, Zimmerman 5, Miller. Field Goals 19-47, 3-pointers 1-11 (Woodward). Free Throws 14-25. Rebounds 26 (Croft 7). Fouls 14.

Lyon County 54, Crittenden County 43
Lyon County 13 8 17 16
Crittenden County 12 6 15 10
Lyon - Perdue, Martin 4, Spencer, Staples 4, Wilkerson 7, Gary 3, Thomas, Sutton 23, Brazell 13. Field Goals 15-46, 3-pointers 3-10 (Brazell 2-3, Wilkerson 1-1). Free Throws 21-27. Rebounds 34 (Sutton 9). Fouls 12.
Crittenden - Clark 9, Frazer, Hill 6, Knox, Scott 14, Gilbert 2, Owen 12, Dickerson. Field Goals 19-47, 3-pointers 1-8 (Scott 1-1). Free Throws 4-8. Rebounds 29 (Scott 7). Fouls 20.

Marshall County 69, Crittenden County 42
Crittenden County 6 5 13 18
Marshall County 18 18 22 11
Crittenden - Clark 4, Frazer, Hill 7, Knox 12, Scott 16, Gilbert 3, Owen, Dickerson, Young. Field Goals 18-55, 3-pointers 3-11 (Scott 2, Gilbert 1). Free Throws 3-9. Rebounds 41 (Clark 15). Fouls 15.
Marshall - Steele 6, Solomon, Northcutt 4, Taylor 7, Buchanan 6, Barnard 2, Jessup, C.Clark 9, York 7, Nelson 7, Warmick 5, Rentfrow 11, Van-meter. Field Goals 27-56, 3-pointers 4-9 (Buchanan, York, Nelson, Warmick). Free Throws 11-18. Rebounds 32 (Nelson 6). Fouls 13.

Lady Rockets survive onslaught of fouls to stop skid, notch victory in Classic opener

STAFF REPORT

What do forty-nine fouls, an ejected coach, 15 straight losses and the best record in the Second Region have in common?

They're all somehow connected to Monday night's Crittenden County victory in the first round of the All A Classic Basketball Tournament.

The Lady Rockets had lost 15 straight games before beating home-standing Dawson Springs 57-44 in the Classic opener. The Lady Panthers committed almost 50 fouls in the game, which played a part in Dawson coach Erik Peyton getting two technical fouls in the second half and being kicked out of the game.

For their reward, however, the Lady Rockets now face University Heights, a team that has won 12 straight and has the best overall score-sheet in the entire Second Region at 15-1. Its

only loss was to Hopkinsville early in December.

UHA beat Crittenden 72-40 in an earlier meeting this season, but coach Shannon Hodge says there's plenty of room for hope and reason for greater expectations when the teams square off at 7:30 p.m., Thursday in Dawson Springs for the Class A semifinal round.

The last time they met, Crittenden was without then-starting-center Mary Mattingly, who had an emergency appendectomy. Backup center Maggie Collins also missed the previous encounter because of a concussion suffered in the Livingston game a night earlier.

“We will have a few more people this time and hopefully that will improve our ability to handle things,” Hodge said.

Timing could be an issue, too. The last meeting came right after Crittenden lost an emotional game to arch-rival Livingston Central. This time, the Lady Rockets have a lift from their first win since the opening game of the season.

“Getting the win after a long drought should give us some confidence from an emotional and mental perspective,” Hodge added.

A concern, though, is an injury suffered by Lady Rocket stalwart Bailey Brown. The point guard badly sprained her ankle in the fourth quarter against Dawson Springs. She was hobbled, but managed to finish that contest with a game-high 24 points.

Brown saw a doctor Tuesday, and will likely play on Thursday. However, the damage to her ankle could play a factor in how well she moves. She averages 18 points a game.

Last loss in district action

Crittenden County lost by 11 to Lyon County at home Friday. It was the last Fifth District game for the regular season. The Lady Rockets finished winless in six league games and will play Livingston Central in the first-round of the Fifth District Tournament.

The Lady Rockets were within one point of Lyon starting the fourth period, but Lady Lyon Kacie Freeman made two three-pointers and Jill P'Poole scored five more down the stretch to pull away.

Lyon County 57, Crittenden County 48
Lyon County 13 12 15 17
Crittenden County 11 19 39 48
Lyon - Somers 4, McKinney 2, Trimm 2, Freeman 8, M.P'Poole 5, Blackburn 6, J.P'Poole 18, White 4, York 2, Claxton 6. Field Goals 23, 3-pointers 3 (Freeman 2, Blackburn 1). Free Throws 8-15. Fouls 24.
Crittenden - Brown 22, Binkley 2, Oliver 10, Head 10, Collins 2, Mattingly 1, Davis. Field Goals 12, 3-pointers 3 (Brown 2, Oliver 1).



Mike Howton, The Dawson Springs Progress

Crittenden County's Bailey Brown plays close defense against Dawson Springs' Rihana McKnight. Brown made 16 foul shots en route to a game-high 24 points as Crittenden won the All A Classic first-round matchup.

Free Throws 21-37. Fouls 18.

ALL A CLASSIC FIRST ROUND

Crittenden County 57, Dawson Springs 44
Crittenden County 13 10 12 22
Dawson Springs 12 7 7 18
Crittenden - Brown 24, Binkley 5, Oliver 7, Head 6, Collins 5, Mattingly 6, McDowell 2, Davis 2. Field Goals 16, 3-pointers none. Free Throws 25-41. Fouls 21.
Dawson Springs - Mills 6, Black 15, Genseal 4, Miller 2, Loney 2, McKnight 11, Menser 2, Todd, Bruch, Bruce 2, Winters. Field Goals 14. Free Throws 16-27. Fouls 28.

The Crittenden Press
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Oak firewood for sale by Audi Marman. 965-0276. (41-32-p)

Fredonia Foods and More is now open 24-hours daily for your convenience. 965-3452. (21-29-c)

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real estate

29.4 acres for sale in Crittenden County, excellent hunting property, \$2,200/acre. 558-5232. (3t-29-p)

lost

Steel trailer loading ramp in Frances area. Reward offered. please call 704-9193. (1t-p-29)

notices

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CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT

CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-CI-00023

TAX EASE LIEN SERVICING, LLC PLAINTIFF

V. GARY W. BIRCHWELL; and UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF GARY W. BIRCHWELL; and KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY; and COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, COUNTY OF CRITTENDEN

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SECRETARY OF FINANCE
AND ADMINISTRATION
CABINET DEFENDANTS
NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue of an Amended Default Judgment, Summary Judgment, and Order of Sale entered in the Crittenden Circuit Court on November 10, 2011, I will on January 20, 2012, beginning at the hour of 10:00 a.m., prevailing time, at the Courthouse door in the City of Marion, Crittenden County, Kentucky, proceed to offer for sale to the highest and best bidder, the real estate (hereinafter described and all the right, title, and interest of the parties hereto, to-wit:)

Legal Description: BEGIN at point in c/1 Nunn Switch Road that is 20 feet from the Southwest end of c/1 of 36 inch concrete pipe and approximately ½ mile from U.S. Highway 60, being the Northeast corner of Samuel's tract; thence w/ blacktop Road S 42 ½ degrees E 150 feet to point; thence w/ blacktop Road S 12 degrees 20 minutes E 121 feet to corner; thence a new line S 60 ½ degrees W 376 feet to corner; thence a new line N 22 ½ degrees W 370 feet to corner at old road; thence w/ old Road N 78 degrees E 133 feet to angle in Road; thence w/ old Road N 63 degrees E 108 ½ feet to angle at 10 inch white oak; thence w/ old Road N 73 degrees 45 minutes E 185 feet to beginning, as surveyed by S. Frank Oliver, Surveyor, LS No. 1227, on 9-26-1974. Being the same property conveyed to Gary W. Birchwell, by Joe Johnson and Bonnie Johnson, husband and wife, by Deed dated September 16, 1983, recorded in Deed Book 142, Page 27, Crittenden County Court Clerk's Office. The description provided herein was provided by the parties and is contained in the Judgment and Order of Sale.

Address: 229 Nunn Switch Road, Marion, Kentucky 42064

1. The Master Commissioner will sell same at public auction to the highest and best bidder at the Courthouse door for cash or a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. The successful bidder shall be required to give a bond with good surety for the unpaid purchase price with said bond bearing interest at 12% per annum from the date of the sale. In the event Plaintiff is the successful

purchaser, Plaintiff shall be entitled to take credit against the purchase price to the full extent of Plaintiff's lien and costs and expenses, including attorney's fees awarded pursuant to the Order of Sale. Should the sale not bring sufficient proceeds to pay all delinquent ad valorem tax liens in full satisfaction, Plaintiff shall be entitled to take credit against the purchase price in the amount of the Plaintiff's pro rata share of the sale proceeds pursuant to the Order of Sale.

2. The Purchaser shall be required to assume and pay any ad valorem taxes and all taxes assessed against said property by any City, State, County or any school district which are due and payable at any time during the year 2012 or thereafter. Said sale shall be made subject to: all easements, covenants and restrictions of record; assessments for public improvements; and any facts which an inspection and accurate survey may disclose. Said property shall be sold with the improvements thereon "as is".

3. The purpose of this sale is the satisfaction of an Amended Default Judgment, Summary Judgment, and Order of Sale entered on November 10, 2011 on behalf of the Plaintiff against the Defendants, Gary W. Birchwell, any Unknown Spouse of Gary W. Birchwell, Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, County of Crittenden, by and on relation of Jonathan Miller Secretary of Finance and Administration Cabinet, for the sum of \$3,364.89 as of November 1, 2011, with monthly interest accruing at a rate of \$4.68 per month until paid, attorney's fees and for court costs expended herein.

Dated this the__day of
December, 2011.
Brandi D. Rogers
MASTER COMMISSIONER,
CRITTENDEN CIRCUIT COURT
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Fax: (270) 965-2262
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A photograph showing a massive explosion or fireball erupting from the top of a hill. The explosion is a large, billowing cloud of orange and brown smoke and fire. The hillside is covered in dry, brownish vegetation. In the foreground, there is a line of bare, black trees and a field of dry, yellow grass. The sky is overcast and grey.

PHOTO BY KRISTIN BELT



PHOTO BY DARYL K. TABOR

Blasting to cut away tons of earth from the Crayne Knobs in southern Crittenden County began last Friday in order to make way for construction of 5.2 miles of a new, four-lane U.S. 641 that will run between the twin features. Since Dec. 16, trackhoes and dozers have been removing trees and vegetation on the knobs (above) in order to cut a path for the roadway and temporary access to the peak of the knobs, leaving the once lush hillsides looking like a moonscape (top right). When finished, the \$18.6 million project will have cut a valley between the hills in a stair-step manner to reduce the risk of land slides on the roadway. At left, the first blast rang out across the Crayne community just before 1 p.m., Friday. Afterward, heavy equipment began clearing away the earth loosened from the explosion. At right, local subcontractor Shelby Belt, who has been clearing the land, points the current U.S. 641 corridor with homes along the road shown in blue. Blasts will continue regularly until all the necessary land is cleared. The Press Online will notify residents of the scheduled blasts as information becomes available. For more photos, visit us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/TheCrittendenPress.



STAFF REPORT

After four preliminary hearings last Wednesday in Crittenden District Court, three individuals were bound over to the February term of the Crittenden County Grand Jury.

District Judge Daniel Heady heard testimony in four felony cases and found probable cause to send cases involving one man and two women to next month's grand jury.

Rayln R. Hunt of Marion is charged in two separate cases involving a number of charges, namely 16 counts of forgery, possession of a forged instrument, theft, possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), possession of drug paraphernalia and second-degree hindering prosecution or apprehension.

According to testimony in last week's hearing, Hunt's

mother told police that her daughter took checks, jewelry and cash from the parent's home. Hunt was charged in August with allegedly writing checks in excess of \$800 and signing her mother's name to them.

In a second case involving Hunt, local and state authorities are alleged to have found meth, rolling papers and a pipe in her purse. That allegation occurred at a home in Crittenden County where probation and parole officers and local authorities had gone looking for another woman. When officers arrived, Hunt allegedly told them the woman they were looking for was not there. According to testimony, officers later found the woman they were looking for inside the home, thus charging Hunt with hindering apprehension.

Hunt's case is scheduled to be heard by a grand jury

on Feb. 6.

The judge also found probable cause to continue prosecution of Claud Mills of Tolu on a single theft charge. A woman to whom Mills is selling a house on contract has alleged that the man took items valued at about \$2,500, including lumber and a refrigerator, from her home while she was away.

In another case, Judge Heady determined that probable cause exists to send a burglary charge against Allen Curtis Hoover, 31, of Marion to the grand jury.

According to testimony by Kentucky State Trooper Chris King, Hoover was charged with taking more than \$10,000 worth of items from a building at Wild Wing Lodge on Jan. 2. A receipt from a Providence scrap yard with Hoover's name on it tied him to the crime scene, the trooper testified.

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